Co-Operation Means Co-Prosperity

Nippon Times

We Fight With Firmness, We Build With Kindness

No. 15,719 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1943 Price 15 Sen

FINAL VICTORY IN WAR ASSURED, ASSERTS PRIME MINISTER TOJO IN STIRRING NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Foundations Have Been Laid for Attainment of Nippon's Aims Through the Results Scored in Past Year

THANKS ALLIES FOR COOPERATION

In a New Year's message to the people of Nippon and their allies, Prime Minister and concurrently War Minister General Hideki Tojo declared that with the brilliant victories won during the past year, the foundations have been laid for a certain final victory in the War of Greater East Asia. In greeting the second year of the current war he expressed his determination and that of the 100,000,000 people of Japan to overcome any and all obstacles toward the attainment of Japan's aims.

At the same time, the Prime Minister voiced his deep appreciation for the all-out and successful efforts of Nippon's allies in Europe and in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and for the devoted and courageous efforts of the officers and men of the Imperial Fighting Forces.

His message follows:

"In welcoming the New Year's Day of the 18th year of Showa, I respectfully pray for a long life for His Majesty the Emperor and congratulate the Imperial Family upon its manifold prosperity.

"It is with awe and reverence for me to describe here that His Imperial Majesty in this unprecedentedly great war is diligently steeped in busy political and military affairs. That His Imperial Majesty some time ago personally paid His homage to the Ise Grand Shrines and personally offered His prayers to the Divine Soul of the Great Imperial Ancestress is also described here with inspiring reverence. When I learn that this sacred event has no precedent in the history of the Empire and how gracious the Imperial Mind is, I am filled with the profoundest emotion and trepidation.

We, the subjects of His Imperial Majesty, will do well to think of the unheard-of gravity and momentous nature of the present War and to exert our efforts to serve our country all the more, thereby making the August Mind at ease.

Brilliant Results Won

"On looking back, the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia has been observed. In the interval, under the August Virtues of His Majesty the Emperor and thanks to the skilled planning and daring fighting of the officers and men of the Imperial Forces and the demonstration by the people of their total power, military results unequaled in world history have been obtained by the Empire, which now is advancing triumphantly with an eye on the day when America and Britain will yield for once.

"Along with you all, I hereby express my hearty gratitude to the officers and men of the Imperial Forces who day and night on the first line are continuing death struggles, offer reverently my sincere condolences to the departed spirits of the war heroes who have become the foundations for the defense of the country, and at the same time pray that the wounded and sick officers and men may recover as soon as possible so that they may be in a position to come back and serve the State.

In the first year of the war the Empire has eliminated American, British, and Dutch armed forces from Greater East Asia. It has reduced many strategic points over a wide area. It has also secured immense resources which might be turned at once into fighting power. Thus the foundations of complete victory in the War of Greater East Asia have been laid and the foothold has been secured for the realization of the great ideal of mutual prosperity among all countries which has been inspiring the Empire ever since its founding.

Toward Ultimate Victory

"The Empire, further, is strengthening and extending its foundations for certain victory, while consolidating its ties with its allies and friendly nations in a positive manner, so that together we may continue to the end the offensive on the United States and Britain until the ultimate victory is won.

"It is gratifying to note that at such a time our allies in Europe, in solid cooperation with our Empire, are surmounting every hardship and everywhere displaying a fighting strength that has astounded the rest of the world. Manchoukuo, our northern ally, with its national foundations ever firm, is ably sharing with us the task of northern defense, thereby contributing immensely to the strengthening of our fighting power.

"The Republic of China, our western neighbor, is daily growing stronger and fulfilling its important task of supplying us with materials from the rear. We have also greeted the first anniversary of the conclusion of the defensive and offensive alliance pact with Thailand, with which we are now pushing forward toward our common goal.

"Allow me, therefore, on this occasion, to express my deepest admiration and heartiest congratulations over the splendid results so far gained by our allies and friends to thank them for their magnificent cooperation with the Empire and, finally, to pray from the bottom of my heart for their enhanced prowess and ever greater successes.

"As regards the inhabitants of the areas occupied by our armed forces, it is reassuring to find that under the efficient administration of the Imperial Army they have come to understand the true intentions of the Empire and thus are giving positive cooperation to our country for the achievement of our common aims. The still untapped limitless material resources of those areas are awaiting development and utilization.

"In view of these circumstances, our enemies the United States and Britain have lately come to take to the counter-offensive. This tendency on the part of the United States and Britain, which are counting on their boasted wealth and productive power, cannot be slighted. At the same time, the foundations for certain, as I have just said, have already been built up.

"The problem before us people behind the lines is how to move at the pivotal center of the 1,000,000,000 people of Greater East Asia, giving full play to the strength and efficiency of all this stupendous manpower and the vast material resources now at our command in such a way that they will meet the needs of warfare and strengthen our total fighting power. It is for this reason that our national policy is concentrated on this one point of strengthening fighting power, for the sake of victory.

Resolution Expressed

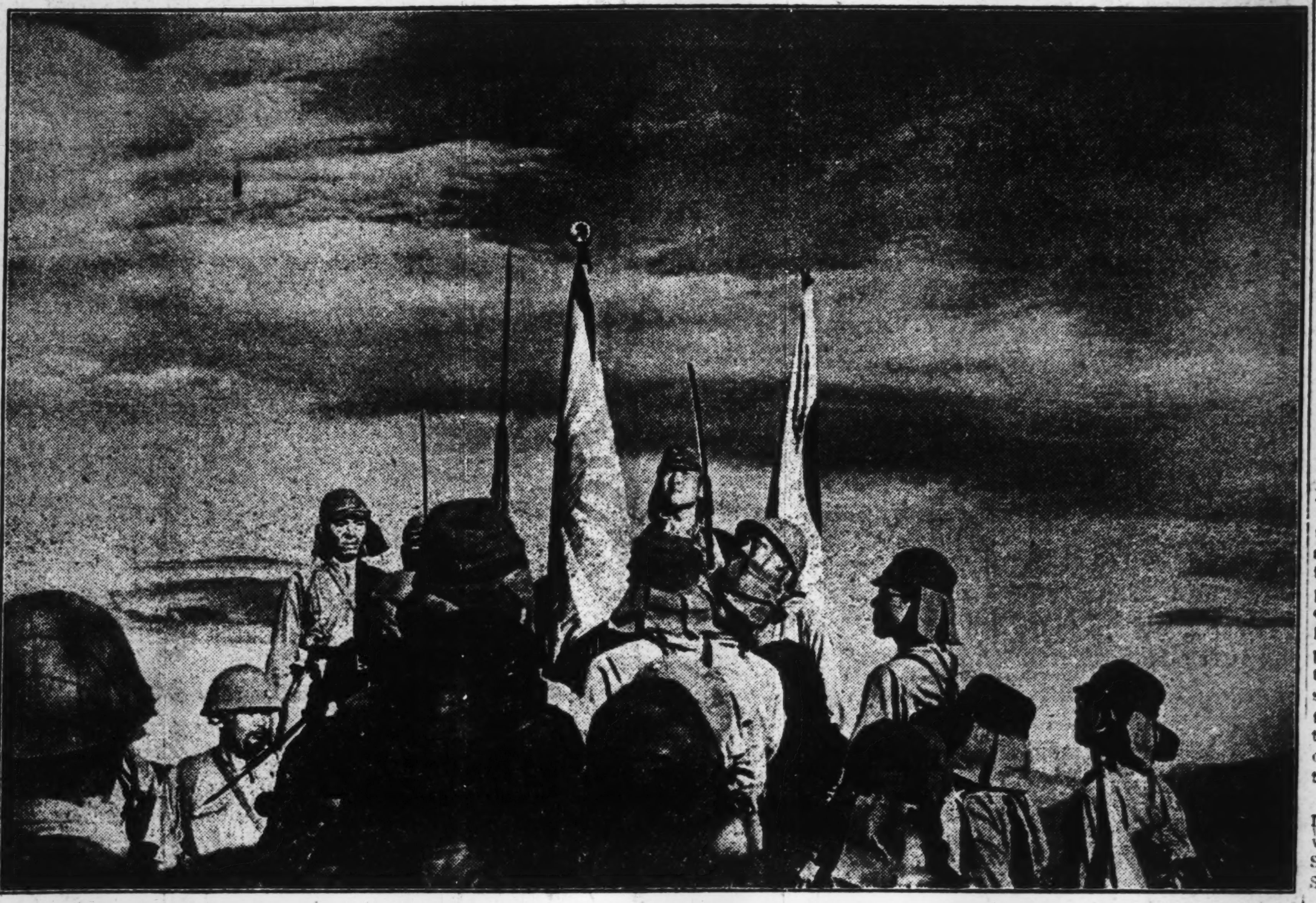
"And in the face of this grave war situation my fellow countrymen are about to make a fuller demonstration of their qualities as Japanese and overcome difficulties however formidable, brush aside whatever obstacles, and make sacrifices, however heavy, in order to increase and strengthen fighting power. This is the resolution of the 100,000,000 people at the present time.

"The Government is determined not to leave anything undone to let the people to display to a fuller extent the power which is welling up in them. In this manner, if the 100,000,000 breathren, turning themselves into a mass of fire, succeed in increasing fighting power, the laurels of the victory in the War of Greater East Asia which is promised us will be on our heads.

Today, in welcoming the 18th year of Showa and the second New Year after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, my thoughts to the officers and men of the Imperial Forces who also on this day on the first line in intense cold or boiling heat as the case may be contemplate the sun rise through the dust of the battlefield, along with the 100,000,000 brethren renew my conviction of sure victory in the war, vow to complete the work of increasing and strengthening fighting power, and from the bottom of my heart pray for triumphs in the second year of the war.

"At the same time I express my deep gratitude to the various treaty countries for their immense cooperation. I am firmly resolved to see that we cooperate more closely and while helping and relying on each other march on to victory and to the realization of our common object."

Saluting the Rising Suns



Each dawn the men of the Armed Forces of the Empire salute the rising suns . . . one in the sky, and the other their banner . . . and renew their determination to completely eliminate the enemy from this earth. The picture shows a group of soldiers on an early southern sunrise.

AOKI REEMPHASIZES NEED OF JOINT FRONT

Expresses Satisfaction Over Close Cooperation Among Nations of East Asia

In his New Year message to the entire nation, Kazuo Aoki, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister, reaffirmed his unshakable confidence in Nippon's ultimate victory in the current war, hand in hand with the Axis Powers, and called upon the people to consolidate further their unity for the object of realizing Nippon's war aims.

Mr. Aoki also expressed satisfaction over the close cooperation extended to Nippon by China, Manchoukuo, Thailand and French Indo-China for the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia and at the same time emphasized the need of further bolstering joint action with the Axis Powers.

Following is the text of his message:

"One year has already elapsed since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, and it is a source of great pleasure to see that during this period the fighting services have scored brilliant successes under the aegis of the August Virtues of His Majesty the Emperor, that the entire people have united most closely together with a firm conviction of the nation's final victory, while on the other hand the ties of comradeship with Germany, Italy, Manchoukuo, China and Thailand have become closer than ever.

"Already five and a half years have passed since Nippon's crusade was started on the Asiatic Continent for the purpose of stabilizing East Asia and contributing ultimately to the construction of a new world order, and a little over one year since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, during which time our fighting services launched upon strategy unparalleled in the history of the world in its magnitude, and obtained glorious results. As a result, the anti-Japanese regime in China has been driven to Chungking where it is now merely subsisting, and Britain and the United States, which had attempted to dominate East Asia, by making a cat's paw of the Chungking regime, have been made to lose all their points d'appui in East Asia where their influence had struck root for many years, and are now desperately trying to roll back the tide of war.

"In parallel with the glorious war results Nippon has already made large strides in the reconstruction of East Asia with the close cooperation of all the nations in Greater East Asia which is at once a war of might and a war of construction.

"Manchoukuo has now welcomed the 11th New Year since its founding with its national foundation becoming firmer than ever and is collabor-

(Continued on Page 4)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective with this issue, the "Japan Times Advertiser" becomes the "Nippon Times" in accordance with the announcement made on December 8, the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

Throughout the past half century since its founding on March 23 of the Thirtieth Year of Meiji (1897), the "Japan Times," as the best foreign language paper representing Japan, has constantly fulfilled most faithfully its mission of introducing Japan to the outside world and the world to Japan. In particular the "Japan Times" has ever been at pains to reveal Japan as she really is to the world and to make known the Japanese point of view truthfully to the peoples abroad.

It was in line with this object that prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, The Japan Times, Limited, purchased the "Japan Advertiser", published in Tokyo, and the "Japan Chronicle", published in Kobe, the former of which represented American interests and the latter British interests. Through this bold and effective step The Japan Times, Limited, corrected the anomalous situation in which Japan was represented to the outside world by alien interests which naturally could but do so inadequately and unsatisfactorily. Not only did this move thus frustrate the possibility of foreign subversion of the media through which Japan was being made known to the world; it also made the "Japan Times" without question the most influential and representative foreign language paper published within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere—a paper written, edited, and managed exclusively by Japanese and thus reflecting most accurately and completely the real Japan.

The idea of renaming the paper was first conceived when the "Japan Advertiser" and the "Japan Chronicle" were merged into the "Japan Times." A new name which would clearly signify the enhanced national character of the augmented paper was obviously in order. Now that it has at last become possible to effect this change in name, The Japan Times, Limited, was pleased formally to announce this plan on the memorable occasion of the first anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

The prime object and the constant care of the "Nippon Times" will continue to be to keep its readers fully informed of the trend of public opinion in Japan, of the actual condition of the country, and of the course which the nation is taking. The "Nippon Times" will also continue to apprise its readers fully and accurately of the course of events in all parts of the world. It is the confident hope of the publishers that through this change in name the paper will be able to demonstrate more clearly than ever its significant mission.

NIPPON TIMES

TANI SENDS MESSAGE TO NIPPON INTERNEES

New Year Greetings Dispatched Through International Red Cross

Foreign Minister Masayuki Tani has dispatched New Year greetings on behalf of the people of Nippon to the Japanese nationals who are interned in various concentration camps throughout the United States, Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India, it is learned today.

The messages were sent through the good offices of Dr. Fritz Paravicini, former Swiss diplomat and at present representative of the International Red Cross in Japan.

Following is the gist of the Foreign Minister's greetings:

"In deep sympathy, I extend my sincere greetings for the New Year. The people of Japan are praying constantly for your good health."

CHINESE MEN OF LETTERS TO FORM NEW ASSOCIATION

Success of Tokyo Literary Conference Prompts Leading Writers and Critics

Domei

SHANGHAI, December 30.—To play the role of torchbearer of New China's literary movement, thus to conform with the spirit of Greater East Asia, plans are under way to organize a China Literary Association with the participation of leading Chinese writers and literary critics, it was learned today.

One of the leading figures of the new organization will be Chou Hua-jen, who, it is recalled, represented Central China at the Greater East Asia Literary Conference held in Tokyo last month.

It is learned that the promoters of the projected association will hold a meeting on January 5, to outline the policy and activities of the new organization, the formation of which was prompted by the success of the Greater East Asia Literary Conference in Tokyo.

It is expected that besides men of letters, China's leading publishers will participate in the new organization.

School Changes Name

Domei

MANILA, December 31.—As from January 1, the Manila Japanese Primary School will change its name to Manila Nippon Kokumin Gakko or Manila Japanese National School, it was revealed today. The school was founded in 1917.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY HOLDS SACRED CEREMONIES IN PALACE TO GREET AUSPICIOUS NEW YEAR

Will Offer Prayers for Everlasting Glory of Imperial Reign and for Prosperity and Welfare Of His Subjects

THEIR MAJESTIES TO RECEIVE GREETINGS

This morning on the first day of the 18th year of Showa Era His Majesty the Emperor will personally officiate at the ceremonies welcoming the New Year in which His Imperial Majesty will offer prayers for the everlasting glory of the Imperial reign and for the prosperity and welfare of His subjects.

At 5:30 a.m. while the sun has yet to come over the horizon His Imperial Majesty, attired in ceremonial robes, will proceed to the south garden of the Shinkaden Hall in the Imperial Palace and take His place upon the pure straw matting within the Imperial screen. There His Imperial Majesty will offer His prayers for the everlasting glory of the Imperial reign and for the prosperity and welfare of His subjects to the Grand Shrines at Ise and the other Shrines, to the gods and deities of heaven and earth and to the Imperial mausolea.

Following that, at 5:40 a.m., His Imperial Majesty will personally worship at the Kashikodokoro Sanctuary and the Koreiden Sanctuary.

To Grant Audiences

At 10 a.m. His Imperial Majesty and Her Majesty the Empress will grant audiences to Princes and Princesses of the Blood and receive their New Year felicitations in the Phoenix Hall. Together with the Princes and Princesses of the Blood, Their Imperial Majesties will then proceed to the Audience Hall and receive the felicitations of Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and other high civilian officials and military officers and their wives.

At 11 a.m. Their Imperial Majesties will receive the felicitations of those qualified in the Audience Hall.

In the afternoon, from 1:30 p.m. Their Imperial Majesties will receive the felicitations of French Ambassador Charles Arsene-Henry, Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps and other Ambassadors and Ministers.

On January 1, and 2, those qualified will be received in audience at the Omiya Palace by Her Majesty the Empress Dowager.

With profound solemnity, the year-end ablutions and the ceremonies for sending out the old year were performed Thursday within the Imperial Palace.

At 2 p.m. His Imperial Majesty, attired in ancient ceremonial robes, proceeded to the Phoenix Hall where, with Chief Court Ritualist Prince Kinteru Sanjo and others attending, His Imperial Majesty officiated at sacred rites.

Following that, at 3 p.m. His Imperial Majesty personally officiated at the year-end ablutions held in the sacred gardens before the Koshikodokoro Sanctuary. Chief Court Ritualist Prince Sanjo performed the ceremonies with His Imperial Highness Prince Mikasa, representing the Princes of the Blood, and His Highness Prince Ri Gu, representing the Ri Princely Families, and the representatives of the officials of Chokunin, Sonin, and Hannin ranks attending.

Then with dusk falling upon the sacred gardens Chief Court Ritualist Prince Sanjo performed at the three Sanctuaries the ceremonies for sending out the old year.

Imperial Family

The 18th year of Showa, that is the year of 1943, has begun, with the Imperial Forces victorious in the war for the annihilation of America and Britain over an area from the Aleutians to the remotest Southern Regions.

The thoughts of the Japanese people turns to the Imperial Family which is observed to be in greater prosperity than ever, each day bringing nearer to realization the ideal which inspired the founding of the Empire 2,603 years ago.

His Majesty the Emperor has attained the age of 43. Her Majesty the Empress is in Her 41st year. Her Majesty the Empress Dowager has reached the age of 60.

His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince is 11 years old. He is a student in the elementary course of the Peers' School. His Imperial Highness Prince Yoshi is nine years old. He is a second year student in the elementary course of the Peers' School.

Her Imperial Highness Princess Teru, the oldest daughter of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, is 19 years of age. Her Imperial Highness Princess Taka is 15 years. Her Imperial Highness Princess Yori is 13. Her Imperial Highness Princess Suga, the youngest Imperial daughter, is five years old.

The following statement by Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira gives an account of the daily life of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress and other members of the Imperial Family.

"On the threshold of the second New Year since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, I in awe and reverance recount the daily life of the Imperial Family.

"His Majesty the Emperor has attained the age of 43. It is a matter of congratulation among us that His Imperial Majesty is in quite an excellent humor and in better health than ever.

"In the war His Imperial Majesty is kept busy, attending to political and military affairs.

No Moment's Rest

"His Imperial Majesty has almost no moment's leisure every day. His Imperial Majesty not only conducts various court rites but sanctions matters submitted to the Throne, hears reports to the Throne made by various Ministers of State and the Army and Naval Chiefs of Staff, and receives in audience the envoys of treaty Powers. We are full of gratitude for His Imperial Majesty's diligence.

"It is six years now since the Imperial Headquarters was established. His Imperial Majesty has day and night been attending to matters connected with the conduct of warfare in the interval, especially since the Imperial decision was given on the declaration of war against America and Britain. It is not of rare occurrence that His Imperial Majesty has sat up till late at night, seeing to State affairs.

"His Imperial Majesty receives in audience supreme commanders and other officers in positions of great responsibility before they leave for war fronts and say words of encouragement to them.

"When such officers come home from the front, His Imperial Majesty calls them close to Him and hears reports made by them on the state of military affairs and thanks them for their trouble.

"Frequently His Imperial Majesty sends aides-de-camp to observe officers and men fighting heroically in engagements and convey to them His wishes.

"On December 12 last year His Imperial Majesty went to Ise and at the Grand Shrines paid homage, reporting the great victories of the Imperial Forces, and praying that the object of the war might be achieved quickly to make it possible to secure the stability of East Asia and perform the divine mission.

"This was the first time that there had been an Imperial visit paid to the Grand Shrines of Ise in time of war. In awe we let our thoughts go to the will of His Imperial Majesty.

"His Majesty the Emperor also sent chamberlains to Chosen, Taiwan, Karafuto, the Kwantung Leased Territory, and the South Seas islands to have them acquaint themselves with the extent to which the people behind the guns in these regions are exerting themselves toward the demonstration of their total power. His Imperial Majesty listened to the chamberlains when upon their return they reported to the Throne on the devotion of the people in the regions visited by them in the service of the State in wartime. To Prime Minister Tojo His Imperial Majesty expressed His satisfaction with the state of things in which the regions visited by the chamberlains were found by them to be.

Grants Various Messages

"His Imperial Majesty, although occupied with matters connected with the war, found time to grant a message on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the educational system, in which the path to be followed by teachers while the nation is at war was

(Continued on Page 4)

GLORIOUS NEW YEAR GREETS PEOPLE OF NEW ORDER

NIPPON SUPREME IN EAST ASIA

From Aleutians to Solomons, Japanese Troops Act As Guardians of Co-Prosperity Sphere—Occupied Areas Rapidly Return to Normalcy

Nippon greets the New Year today with unchallenged supremacy already firmly established over its enemies throughout the vast areas of Greater East Asia.

Virtually all the enemies' former advance bases along their so-called anti-Japanese encirclement line have been converted into convenient bases for military operations by the Imperial Japanese Forces.

The operational area of the Japanese Forces now extends for 20,000 kilometers from the Aleutians in the north to the Solomons across the equator in the south which is a frontline of unprecedented length including both arctic and tropical climates.

The Japanese occupied areas in the Southern Regions and China total nearly 10 times the size of Japan Proper.

At this moment the Kwantung Army is keeping vigil on the northern frontiers in the frozen steppes and prairies of Mengchiang and Manchoukuo while the Imperial Japanese Forces on the western front are on alert duty along the upper Salween River, Yunnan Province and on the Burma-India border.

The Imperial Troops in Malai, East Indies and the Philippines are maintaining careful watch over their respective areas against any enemy attempts to launch a counter-offensive.

In the South Pacific region a fierce struggle still rages in the Solomon Islands where the enemy persistently is attempting to reinforce its trapped troops on Guadalcanal Island.

Meanwhile, with pride in their previous year's achievements but far from complacent, the Japanese nation enters the New Year with renewed determination to fight the war to a final victory.

MANCHOUKUO

Domei

HSINKING, January 1.—In a New Year's message addressed to the people of Manchoukuo, Premier Chang Ching-hui stressed the great achievements attained during the past year and declared that victory in the War of Greater East Asia is certain.

Pointing out that the countries of East Asia are united as one and working for the establishment of the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, Premier Chang said, "The close unity among the East Asiatic peoples has resulted in their securing a position of absolute invincibility."

At the same time he stated that the present war is "a fight to the finish" and that future battles would in all probability assume even greater and more decisive proportions than those in the past.

Dwelling on the significance of the current war, Premier Chang emphasized that the sweeping victories won by the Nippon Forces have resulted in the wiping out of Anglo-American influence and domination from East Asia, have resulted in the re-awakening, the resurrection, of the Asiatic peoples.

Premier Chang also pointed to the brilliant war results scored by the Axis Powers in Europe "whose peoples are continuing their indefatigable efforts for the attainment of our common aims."

Commenting on Manchoukuo's part in the war, he said that the Government is making every effort to enable Manchoukuo to contribute toward the winning of final victory. He outlined the various steps undertaken by the Government, including the unification of administration, the clarification of the basic policies, the training of the nation's youths and other measures which have been and are being carried out to increase Manchoukuo's national strength.

In conclusion he called upon the people of Manchoukuo to do their utmost to repay the valuable assistance and friendship rendered by Nippon, declaring, "The people of Manchoukuo must remember that even at this very moment the officers and men of Nippon are fighting at the risk of their lives for the ideal of Asiatic emancipation, and they must realize anew that an opportunity has been presented us to return the past kindnesses of our Ally."

NORTH CHINA

Domei

PEKING, January 1.—Wang I-tang, chairman of the North China Political Council, outlined the titanic task lying before the North China administrators for the coming year in his New Year message issued today.

The message reads in substance:

"Time has passed swiftly like an arrow and we now greet the 32nd year since the founding of the Chinese Republic.

"What we will have to determine at the threshold of this new year are the aims and plans of our action for the coming year.

"The vital part which North China must play at a time when the War of Greater East Asia must be fought to a final victory need not be mentioned here.

"However, I wish to stress here that the first of the basic needs facing us today is the organized administration of our internal government.

"The life of the people is stabilized only after a good governmental system is established. Only after the life of the people is stabilized, furthermore, can our rich material and human resources be developed.

"This constitutes the sole manner in which we can fulfil our great task of cooperating to achieve the aims of the War of Greater East Asia and of doing our part in the work for the construction of Greater East Asia.

"Thus, in short, our primary aim of action for this year is the organized administration of our internal government.

"Since the beginning of humanity, the basic nature of administration has been determined by the efficiency or inefficiency of the personnel involved.

"The ancient proverbs, 'It is man that governs and not laws,' and 'Government exists only where men reside,' teach us the great truth that personnel is the most important factor in government.

"Especially after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, a pressing need for honest and just officials has arisen.

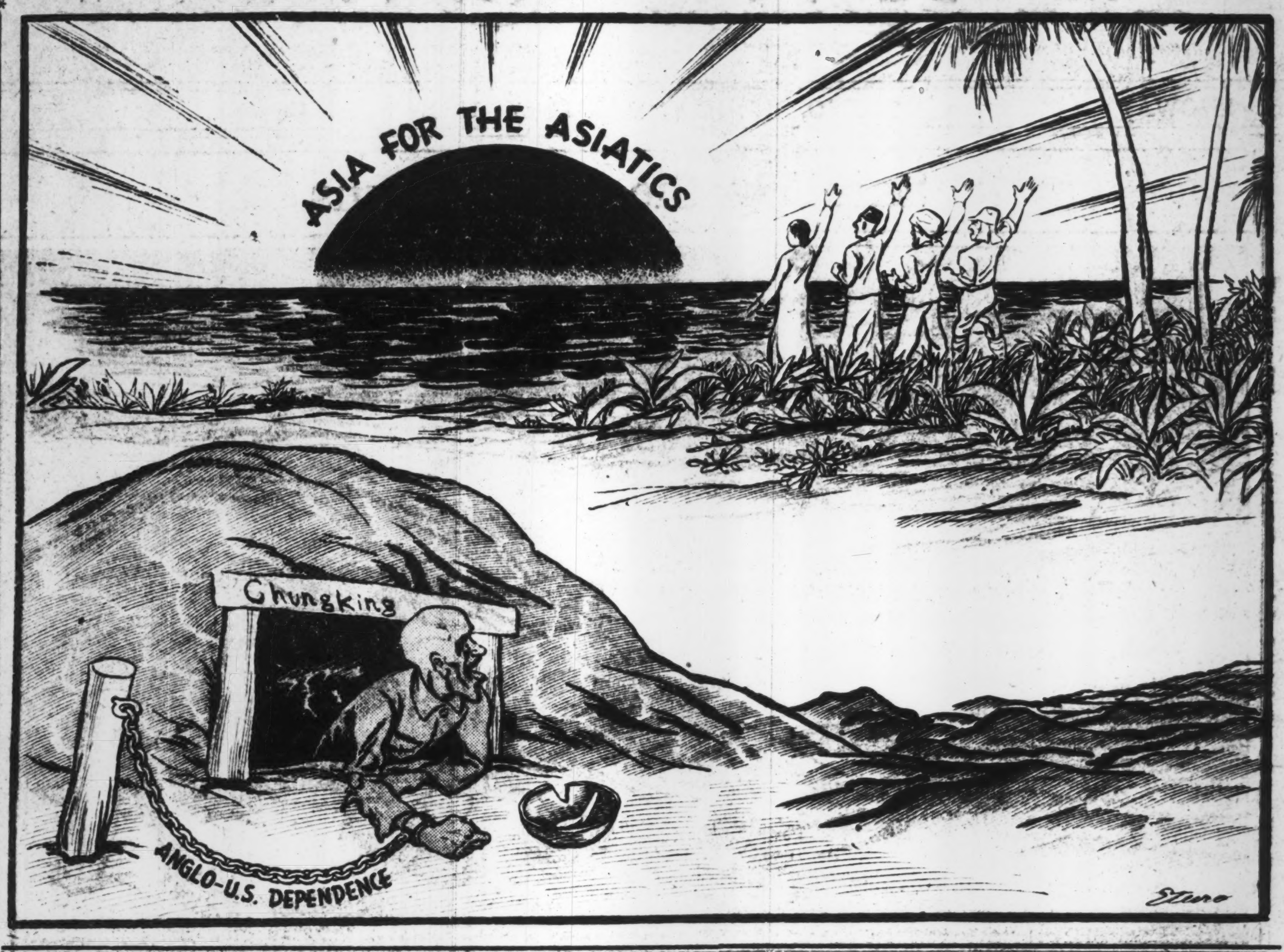
"The creation of the people's strength is not something which can be realized instantly. It is necessary first of all to select honest and intelligent officials to administer the government.

"These officials will then work to wipe out the cancerous bandits, and, with the aid of the people will diminish the damages caused by them.

"In such a fashion, the life of the people will be stabilized and the cost of living reduced, our resources developed, as well as our agriculture developed through the stabilization of our food supply. In such a fashion must we cooperate for the winning of the War of Greater East Asia.

"If the above policy is followed, the revival of China and the divine task of establishing the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere will not by any means be difficult to realize.

"We must clearly understand this aim and must work to unite our plan of action to this great principle. We must mutually exert ourselves in this way to materialize the supreme happiness of not only North China but all China, nay, of all East Asia."



MENGCHIANG

Domei

KALGAN, January 1.—Prince Teh, President of the Federated Autonomous Government of Mongolia, in his New Year Message urged the people of Mongolia, to redouble their efforts to hasten the establishment of a Greater East Asia by continuing to cooperate fully with Japan.

Prince Teh's message is as follows:

"I wish to express my renewed determination as we are about to welcome a momentous New Year for the second time under the brilliant and unprecedented results of the War of Greater East Asia.

"On December 8, 1941, the signal for Asia's actual return to a Greater East Asia for the Asiatics was given by the righteous and furious rise of Japan against centuries of Anglo-American domination of Asia with its one billion people as their exclusive colony.

"The gallant and superior fighting forces of Japan have virtually cleansed Asia of all its centuries of disgrace in one short year while remaining British and American influence presently is being swept out.

"No matter how long the war may last it will be impossible for the Anglo-American forces to turn the tide of war in their favor before the determined attacks of the Imperial Japanese Forces which already have achieved decisive victories at the outset of the current war.

Moral and Sacred War

"In this respect it can be stated that the action taken by our friendly country, Japan, is a moral war to replace injustice with righteousness as well as a sacred war to give each nation a proper place in this world.

"In their attempt to subjugate other races by inhuman methods based on the Anglo-American systems of capitalism and liberalism, the United States and Britain cannot achieve their plans as they are already violating the will of heaven in their wilful disregard of humanity.

"The Federated Autonomous Government of Mongolia greets the New Year for the seventh time, since its founding, as a sound State.

"While our Government already has offered its fullest cooperation in Japan's efforts to settle the China Affair it now is renewing its collaboration politically, economically and culturally for the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia.

Renewed Pledge

"The 6,000,000 people of Mongolia reaffirm their determination to pursue Asia's great mission by sharing in joy and sorrow with Japan as well as with all the other countries of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

"No matter what severe difficulties and hardships may face us we must carry out the renovation of East Asia on the basis of universal concord, on which the Empire of Japan has been founded.

"This will assure us the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, thereby voicing the will of one billion people in Greater East Asia.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

Domei

HANOI, January 1.—After an eventful year which was marked by growing friendship between Japan and French Indo-China, the people of French Indo-China today welcomed the New Year amidst signs auguring another fruitful year of collaboration with Japan.

The year which has just terminated has been one of great historic significance to both French Indo-China and Japan.

With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, French Indo-China was necessarily involved in the gigantic conflict, a world war of unheard of magnitude.

The Japan-French Indo-China Military Agreement and the Joint Defense Agreement subsequently concluded with Japan enabled French Indo-China to fulfill its part as an important military base in the present war.

Furthermore, through the Japan-French Indo-China Economic Agreement the latter is serving as a war supply depot for many essential materials.

The outrageous landing of the British force on Madagascar Island, and the unprovoked attack on French North Africa by the combined Anglo-American force, led to the severance of diplomatic relations by France with Britain and the United States.

Throughout these critical moments French Indo-China remained unshakable in its faithful and loyal allegiance toward the French Government headed by Marshal Henri Petain.

At the same time, the unification of political power is in progress under Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, the Governor-General, in order to continue the unswerving policy of cooperation with Japan.

It should be remembered that all through this period the powerful effects of the brilliant victories achieved by the Imperial Japanese Forces in the vast theaters of the South Pacific seas must have been keenly felt by the French Indo-China authorities.

The policy of close cooperation with Japan by French Indo-China was pledged by the message issued by Governor-General Decoux on November 14, 1942, in which it was declared that peace in French Indo-China is being maintained solely through the established policy of the French Indo-China Government based on several agreements concluded for close cooperation with Japan. This policy, will be the guiding principle in the future. All the French Indo-China people are confident of this.

Speeches and statements in similar veins have been repeated on many occasions since then by several government officials definitely clarifying the attitude of French Indo-China in the War of Greater East Asia.

As to Marshal Petain's principle of cooperation with the Axis Powers, it has been faithfully adopted by the leaders of French Indo-China as their basic policy.

Greater contributions will be expected from French Indo-China in the New Year, especially with regard to the supply of foodstuffs to assist Japan's war program. That the French Indo-China authorities will devote all their energies to fulfil this expectation was pledged and promised by Vice-Admiral Decoux in his address made in Saigon at the Government General Conference last December.

The severance of communications between France and French Indo-China left the latter solely dependent for its survival in the present conflict upon Japan.

In contribution toward Japan's war efforts, essential materials will be supplied to Japan in line with the growth of inter-Southern Regions trade, while the necessity for a total reconstruction of the economic structures of French Indo-China as an integral part of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere will also be fully realized.

Many Asiatic races formerly under the Anglo-American oppression have been liberated and racial aspiration is also being felt by the Annamites and other native inhabitants of French Indo-China. In this respect, again, the first year of the War of Greater East Asia marked an epoch-making period in the history of French Indo-China administration.

HONGKONG

Domei

HONGKONG, January 1.—Filled with a courage that springs from confidence in a sound future and resounding with vigorous progressive work, Hongkong is about to greet its second New Year since its liberation from British tyranny.

The bells which pealed on Christmas Day 1941 proclaming the birthday of the Great Savior, also proclaimed the birth of a new and greater Hongkong and tolled the death knell of greedy British rule.

On this day, the Union Jack, was lowered in the harbor and the Rising Sun flag was proudly raised on the heights of the newly-named hills, Saiko-bo and Kaorigamine.

New Year followed swiftly after that memorable day. But a week later, the Hongkong which had returned to the folds of East Asiatics once again greeted an inspiring but busy New Year.

It was no holiday for the newly established Military Administration which conducted conferences night and day for the reconstruction of the city, beginning on New Year's Day itself.

The resolutions which were formulated at the conferences were put into effect one after another in swift succession.

On January 4, the regulation for the internment of hostile nationals was issued and the local broadcasting station, which had been a hotbed of lies and propaganda in the past, sent forth its first powerful voice of justice into the ether.

On January 10, bus traffic was resumed, and on the following day motion picture theaters were reopened.

What was more, this was a New Year for the victorious fighting troops of Nippon too, from whose bodies the scars and smell of combat had been barely erased.

The heroes of the Imperial troops brought down pine branches from the hills where only a short time ago they had been making daring death-defying charges and planted these in front of their quarters in the traditional fashion of their race.

The local residents drew circles with red ink on square strips of paper to fashion the Rising Sun flags of their deliverers and raised these in front of their homes and everywhere in celebration of their deliverance from tyranny.

The New Year has come again. In front of the office buildings along Meiji Avenue and in front of the city's residences are to be seen the verdant pine branch decorations by which the Japanese signify a New Year.

In the harbor are anchored freighters from the South and river boats of the Pearl River service peacefully flying the Rising Sun flag from their nests.

From the mouth of every Chinese rseident one meets, men and women, young and old, one can hear the greeting in articulate Japanese, 'O-medeto!" (Happy New Year).

In the short period of a year, the Chinese here have come to be skillful users of the Japanese language.

In the park of Kaorigamine hill, a wooden marker is standing marking the ground where the Hongkong Shrine will be built, enshrining the guardian deities of Nippon.

Also on the height west of Nicholson hill is to be found a wooden marker on the spot where a war memorial will be constructed.

On New Year's Day, 1943, Japanese residents of Hongkong will worship the first sunrise from the height on which will stand the war memorial and will worship later at the Hongkong Shrine.

As one recalls the former British ruled Hongkong while gazing upon the city on its new attire on the threshold of a New Year, one is astonished first of all at the sight of the remarkable discipline of the city.

In the past, New Year's Eve was an occasion for all night dancing in such establishments as the Hongkong Hotel and Gloucestor Hotel where the foul smell of liquor mingled decadently with the oppressing odor of perfume.

In the past it is said there were 500 millionares residing in Hongkong and 50,000 "pretty" girls who were attached to them.

There were various recreation facilities also for the benefit of those resident dealers who lived on the black criminal dealings connected with the enemy's instigations in relation to the China Affair.

In the midst of the merry-making of these favored few, the poverty-stricken mass trembled in the cold outside the palatial mansions of the wealthy.

However, from the Hongkong of today, such decadence and injustice have been completely eradicated. Rice, salt, lard, sugar, and other vital food articles are distributed from specified centers at prices which are controlled by regulations.

There is no discrimination between the rich and the workers. Furthermore, the prices here are cheaper than in any other place in South China. The new Hongkong is a city for workers and builders.

The employes of Japanese and Chinese stores, the girl workers of factories, the conductresses of tramcars—all the true symbols of the Hongkong which has regained its true figure as a capital of East Asia.

Not only the outer appearance but also the heart of the residents of Hongkong has changed. Today, there is no use for air shelters which were dug at the expense of huge sums of money taken from the purses of the residents.

The residents of Hongkong have certainly changed. The Chinese here who had lost sight of their destiny as members of East Asia are about to recover their own hereditary pride and strength of Asiatics.

That day of revival will truly signal the time when Hongkong will take its place as a fully grown solid unit of East Asia.

That day will be a day when Hongkong will show fully a new hitherto unknown prosperity as a great intermediate port of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

BURMA

Domei

RANGOON, January 1.—The New Year was ushered in this city of pagodas today with smiles and happy thoughts, although it is true that for the Burmese, the bulk of whom are Buddhists January 1 does not mark the change in calendar as their new year falls on April 18, according to Buddhists customs.

As for the Indian Mohammedans, the seasonal change is observed on December 19 and 20, but this year, incongruous as it may seem, they are all celebrating the New Year on this day as elsewhere.

Everywhere Burmese and Indians may be seen exchanging seasonal greetings with Japanese soldiers as conspicuous is the absence of anything to remind Rangoon of a year ago. Gone is the Union Jack and the sight of Britishers lording over the populace.

In the place formerly occupied by the British flag now flutters the Rising Sun flag side by side with the national colors of the new Burma, and Imperial soldiers, beaming with smiles can be seen exchanging with the happy native people, renewing vows to collaborate in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia to its ultimate victory.

It was nearly a year ago, on Janunuary 12, that the Imperial soldiers first set foot on Burmese soil in their determination to expell the British influence from the land. The jungles of the Shan Range were traversed in no time by the Imperial troops, and Rangoon, the citadel of British domination, fell at once.

The memorable date of the British evacuation of the city of pagodas was March 3, approximately 10 months ago.

The golden roofs of the pagodas, that miraculously survived the treacherous scorched earth tactics of the British who cowardly destroyed everything in their path of retreat, are shining brilliantly in the morning sun as if telling the world of the joy and happiness that have come to the city and of the bright future that awaits the Burmese.

The Burmese and Indians are fully aware that this war is not a struggle of Japan alone but a war to liberate the whole of Asia from the yoke of Anglo-American influence.

CHUNGKING CHAOTIC, REVEALS EX-OFFICER

Some Take Advantage of Confusion to Distribute Anti-Government Hand-bills

Domei

NANKING, December 31.—With Chungking authorities unable to meet or remedy the sorry plight of the city, life in that beleaguered capital has grown unbearably worse, resulting in a serious deterioration in the public's morale, Captain Yang Yuan-ming, former surgeon in the Chungking army, declared in an interview here today.

Captain Yang escaped from Chungking early this month and arrived in Anking, Anhwei Province, whence he arrived here to join the forces of the National Government of China under President Wang Ching-wei.

One of the main causes of Chungking's current plight, he pointed out, is the effective severance by the Japanese Forces of the communications lines, including the Burma Road, connecting Chungking with the Anti-Axis Powers. He added that Chungking's plight was further aggravated by the fact that its population has recently increased remarkably with the arrival of refugees from the famine-stricken areas in the vicinity of Chungking.

Authorities Helpless

With the flow of foodstuffs and other materials to Chungking from the outside world completely stopped due to the Japanese blockade, Captain Yang declared, the authorities there are helpless to cope with the situation. The Chungking officials, he added, are not only unable to improve the living conditions of the people but are actually adding to the people's hardships by requisitioning foodstuffs from the citizens' dwindling stores in an effort to meet the constant demands from the troops at the front lines.

Faced with mounting hardships and also bitterly disillusioned by the anti-Axis Powers' empty claims of "victories," the people's morale in the orphaned capital is rapidly deteriorating, the former Chungking officer said. He disclosed that some of the dissatisfied people secretly displayed red and white cloths on top of strategic government buildings to guide Japanese warplanes when the city was bombed some time ago. Others, he added, took advantage of the confusion created by the bombings to distribute anti-government hand-bills.

The dodging of military conscription has become common practice among the wealthy citizens, it was also revealed. They resort to the practice of hiring substitutes for a sum of 3,000 to 10,000 yuan to evade the summons from the military authorities for service in the army. This practice, Captain Yang declared, has naturally created a serious animosity between the rich and the poor in the city.

Chungking's fifty odd hospitals, the ex-Chungking officer said, are in a helpless condition, unable to provide medical treatment as a result of a complete stoppage of imports of foreign medical supplies.

To Honor War Dead

Domei

MANILA, December 31.—Memorial services for Japanese war dead since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia will be held at the Nishi Honganji here on January 2 on the occasion of the first anniversary of the entry of Japanese Forces into Manila.

MANILA CELEBRATES RIZAL ANNIVERSARY

Vargas Speaks at First Meeting of New Philippines Patriotic Association

Domei

MANILA, December 30.—The importance of thoroughly embodying the spirit of the late Jose Rizal, great Philippine patriot and independence leader, in the construction of the new Philippines as envisaged by the Kalibapi, was stressed by Jorge B. Vargas, Chief of the Philippines Administrative Organ and Benigno Aquino, Secretary General, speaking at the first meeting of the Kalibapi, or the New Philippines Patriotic Association.

The gist of the speeches by the two Philippine leaders is as follows:

The speech by Mr. Vargas:

"To remember and immortalize the virtues of the late Jose Rizal, who died here 46 years ago, is the annual expression of patriotism by the Filipinos. Today, we meet here to respond to the demand of self sacrifice, coordination and superhuman efforts necessary for the realization of the ideals of the Filipino people as represented by Mr. Rizal.

Rizal's Desires Fulfilled

"On this day which marks the first Rizal Anniversary since the Philippines were released from the fetters of the United States, the Filipino people have been freed from western control and domination. That was the most ardent desire of the late Mr. Rizal. On this memorable day, the whole people of the Philippines must brace up and renew their resolve and determination to make any sacrifice whatever in order to perpetuate the welfare of the Filipinos under the guidance of Japan, liberator and protector of all the countries of East Asia.

"In this spirit, I selected today, the Rizal Anniversary, as the day for the first general meeting of the Kalibapi. It should be noted that the Kalibapi, or the New Philippines Patriotic Association, was organized through the encouragement of the Japanese Military Administration which earnestly desires the promotion of the welfare of the Filipinos. It is also a body which the Filipinos organized in order to realize the truth as advocated by the late Mr. Rizal.

"Today's meeting should be the best tribute to the soul of the late Mr. Rizal, who gave his entire life to the achievement of the high ideal, the freedom of the Philippines. The construction of the new Philippines is possible only when we become firmly resolved to sacrifice ourselves for this far-reaching goal under the wise and rational guidance of Japan. It is only when this deal is attained that the Philippines can play a really important part as a member of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

The speech by Mr. Aquino:

"It is certainly very significant that the first general meeting of the Kalibapi is being held on the Rizal Anniversary, the commemorative day of the death of Jose Rizal, the greatest hero of the Philippines. It is certainly the most suitable day for the Filipinos to renew the resolve to inherit the spirit of the late Mr. Rizal and sacrifice themselves for the execution of their duties as a pillar of the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Rizal Throbbed Patriotism

"The life of Jose Rizal throbbed with patriotism. His was the life of complete self-sacrifice for the sake of his fellow countrymen. This spirit of self-sacrifice was well indicated by a letter which he sent to his parents. In that letter, Mr. Rizal said men should be ready to stake their lives for the execution of their beliefs and obligations and that they should be prepared to take any risk for the attainment of goals which they believe right and justified.

"This beautiful spirit of self-sacrifice is the goal of the Kalibapi. To drive home to the people of the Philippines this beautiful spirit of self-sacrifice is the very goal of the Kalibapi. The association also aims at making the Filipinos thoroughly conscious that they are under obligation to do their best for the victory of Japan, liberator of the countries in East Asia.

"The Kalibapi is strongly supported by the Japanese authorities. And through that warm support, we may well note the spirit of benevolence, which forms the underlying principle of Japan's policy for reconstructing East Asia. It certainly makes us understand that the policy of Japan toward the Philippines is entirely different from the crafty schemes of Anglo-America. We wish to take this occasion to express our heartfelt thanks for this spirit of Japan which attaches first importance to the promotion of the welfare of the Filipinos."

Throughout Greater East Asia the Peoples Greet A Glorious New Year

General Count Hisaichi Terauchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Army Forces in the Southern Areas, is shown here inspecting the foremost firing line over the Nu River area in Burma and listening to an explanation of his subordinate officers.

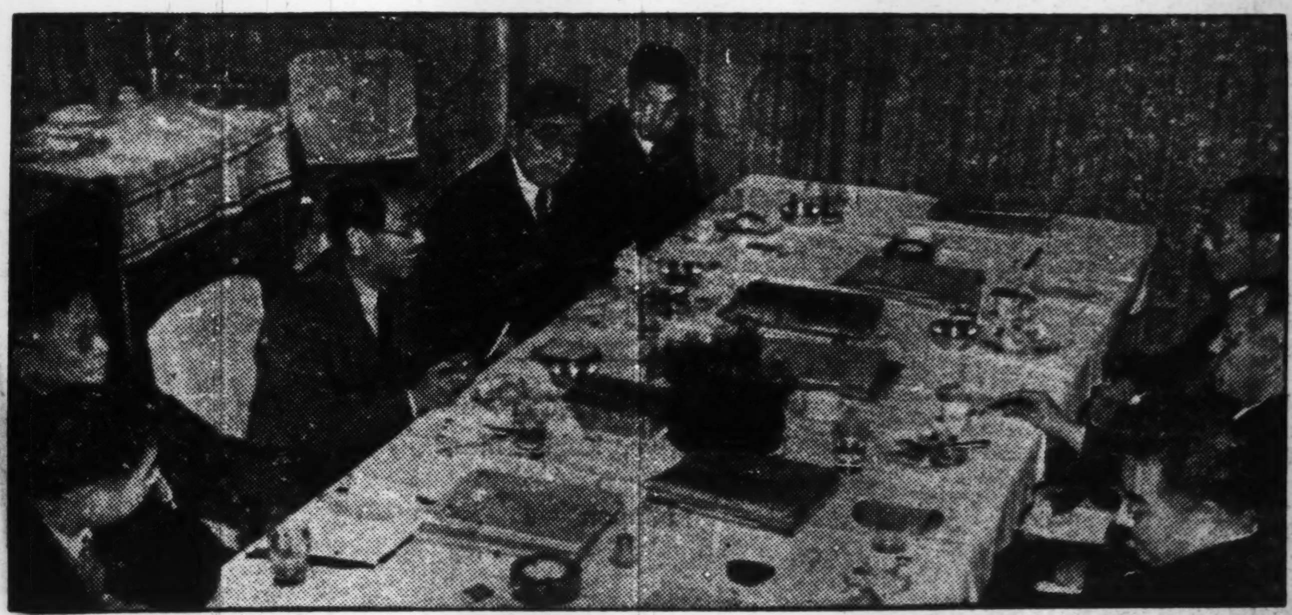
New Year in a Farm Village—A photograph taken in a farm village in Northern Japan on the theme of this year's Imperial Poetry Contest.

A happy soldier in Hongkong greets the New Year with his mascot Blackie, a three-year old dog who goes wherever his soldier-friend goes.

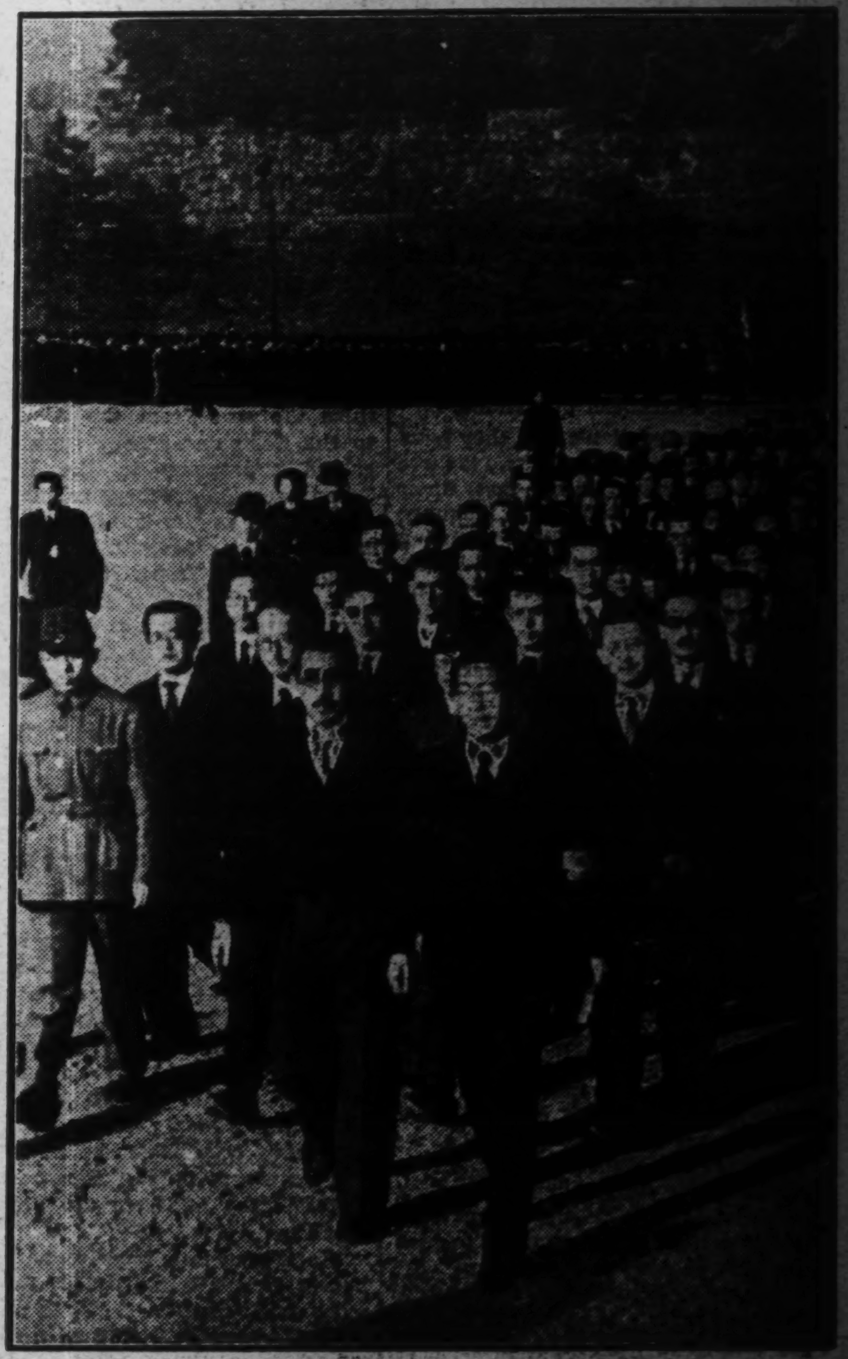
The natives of southern Luzon greet the New Year, their first after being freed from the shackles of American imperialism. Like other inhabitants of the Philippines, these people are thankful to the soldiers and sailors of Nippon who have made it possible for them to start life anew.

The women of the farms greet a serene, happy New Year. A photograph based on the Imperial Poetry Contest, "New Year in a Farm Village," shows three women filling comfort bags for the soldiers and sailors who are serving with the Colors.

Girls playing battledore and shuttlecock in Shanghai to which peace and order have now been restored.



First meeting of the special contributors to the "Voice of Nippon" (See Page 8). Left to right: Mr. Ki Kimura, Mr. Sanehiko Yamamoto, Mr. Toshi Go (President, Nippon Times), Dr. Ichiro Kiyose, Mr. Shin-ichi Hasegawa (Nippon Times); right side of table: Mr. Shigeomi Nomura, Rear-Admiral Tanetsugu Sosa (retired), Dr. Kennosuke Kimbara.



Employes of the Nippon Times, led by President Toshi Go (center, first row) marching back to the office after paying their respects to His Majesty the Emperor in the plaza in front of the Imperial Palace.

PROGRESS AMAZES NEWSMEN OF AXIS

German and Italian Correspondents Touring South Struck By Rapid Reconstruction

Domei

DJAKARTA, December 30.—After arriving here after an extensive inspection tour of occupied areas in the Southern Regions at the invitation of the Japanese Military Administration on November 25, four Axis correspondents stationed in Tokyo expressed their deep admiration for the rapid and amazing progress in Japan's reconstruction operations in this vast area.

The four correspondents included Wilhelm Schultze of the Berlin Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, Joseph Giesehkilchen of the Basle Nationalzeitung, Vinzo Comito of the Turin Gazetta del Popolo and Cesare Viale of the Turin Stampa.

Immediately upon arriving here, the party visited local schools, factories, the botanical gardens and other places of interest. During the past several days, the party visited Surabaya and Bandoeng.

Struck by Rapidity

In a joint statement, the correspondents declared that after seeing for themselves the vast area covered by the Southern Regions, they were greatly surprised by the amazing rapidity with which the Japanese Forces were able to carry out their war operations. They were particularly strongly impressed with the iron-tight and really invulnerable strategical front which the Japanese Forces have succeeded in establishing in those west areas against Anglo-American attacks. Such a feat, they said, has been possible only through a close and unfailing unity and cooperation among the Japanese fighting services, including land and sea as well as air forces.

In the course of their visits to various places of interest as well as war sites, what most strongly impressed the visiting correspondents was Kota Bahru of Malaya. The success of the Japanese landing operations there was the very key which brought success to Japan's southern operations.

What interested them most, however, is the energetic and large scale construction operations which are progressing together with Japan's war operations. The war which the Axis Powers are fighting against Anglo-America aims at the construction of a new order in the world. This aim completely differs from the imperialistic ambitions of Britain and the United States.

In this sense, an increase in Japanese resources by the present war itself becomes an asset to Germany and Italy. In this connection, therefore, the acquisition of enormous resources in the Southern Regions is certainly an invaluable addition to the assets of Germany and Italy.

The faster the Japanese reconstruction operations in the Southern Regions progress, the greater becomes Italo-German strength, they said. The rapid recovery of various places in the Malaian region, particularly the swift and strong revival of Penang and Shonan, which were devastated by war operations was most encouraging to them.

Java is certainly a beautiful country and the correspondents instinctively were impressed with its beauty upon their arrival in Djakarta. The peace and order which reigned in the streets of Djakarta made them completely forget that it was once a theater of war in the course of Japan's southern operations.

The correspondents said they have stayed in Japan so far for two to three years, but they found that their knowledge of the Japanese language was far inferior to Japanese being used by native inhabitant children. They have such a perfect command of the Japanese tongue, they pointed out.

The fact that the native residents are leading a very orderly and peaceful life is vivid evidence of the complete trust and confidence which they place in the Japanese administration in the Southern Regions, the correspondents declared.

Aoki Reemphasizes Need of Joint Front

(Continued From Page 1)

ating most closely with us as one of the member nations of the co-prosperity orbit.

"On the other hand, three years have gone by since the National Government of the Republic of China re-established its capital in Nanking for the future prosperity of East Asia. With the aid of Nippon the National Government, which is also closely co-operating with us for the prosecution of the war on the principle of sharing both joy and grief with Nippon, not only has developed its various administrative facilities but has also enhanced its international position, in sharp contrast to the fast declining Chungking regime.

"Furthermore, Thailand which had long suffered under the unscrupulous intrigue and chicanery of both Britain and the United States has bravely shaken off their yoke and is now doing her share in the construction of a new order in East Asia hand in hand with Nippon.

"French Indo-China, too, has joined the Nippon line-up and is strengthening her co-operation with us.

"In these circumstances, it is a matter for great congratulation to see that the Southern Regions are being rapidly reconstructed out of the ashes of the war under the able management and government of the Nippon Military Administrations.

"Both the United States and Britain are persistently attempting to stage counter-attacks. The United States especially is futilely pinning hopes on a final victory by making the current war a long drawn-out affair through its materialistic power.

"We have not the slightest doubt but that the ultimate victory will be ours. However, it goes without saying that, in order to gain this final victory, it is necessary for us to throw the whole weight of our energy into the war. Within, we must consolidate our unity to strengthen our wartime structure and to increase our productivity. Without, we should strengthen our friendly ties with the Axis Powers and also with all the nations within the co-prosperity orbit, so as to firmly establish a wartime structure which will not, under any circumstances, fail to achieve victory for us.

"Needless to say, it is the sole aim of the War of Greater East Asia to realize the lofty principles of the founding of our Empire by establishing a new order in East Asia based upon high morality. However, in order to accomplish this great task, it is necessary for us to accelerate the constructive work in the Greater East Asia Sphere, so as to consolidate our total fighting power, both spiritually and materially. It was for this objective that the Government established in November last the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs in the hope of making it the propelling force for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere under a co-ordinated administrative system," the Minister of the Greater East Asiatic Affairs concluded.

PHILIPPINE YOUNGSTERS SEND SEASON'S GREETINGS

Domei

MANILA, January 1.—Two Philippine youngsters, Togo Duran and his younger brother Nogi Duran, have addressed season's greetings to their favorite Japanese heroes, Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet and Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo respectively, and the letters have been received by the local Domei office for delivery.

Togo Duran, aged 15, has written to Admiral Yamamoto:

"To my favorite commander, Admiral Yamamoto:

"First of all, let me extend my sincere greetings for the year.

"My name is Togo Duran and I am attending the Manila Japanese Language School of which I will be in the fifth grade.

"I was named after the famous Japanese Naval Commander, the late Admiral Togo, who defeated the Russian navy in the Russo-Japanese War.

"When I first heard that Japanese Navy Forces had sunk many United States battleships lying in Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941, and also a few days later, had sunk two British battleships off the Malayan coast, my happiness knew no limit.

"Only a year has passed since the war began and the Imperial Navy rules the seas from the Aleutians to the Solomons. They even have gained supremacy in the Indian Ocean and also Japanese submarines have gone as far as the Atlantic Ocean. I am praying always for victory of the Imperial Navy.

"I understand the real mission of Japan is to liberate Asia from Anglo-American influence from which we, the people of Asia, have suffered so many oppressions.

"I am now studying hard, for afterwards, I would like to enter a school in Japan and, if possible, be a member of the Imperial Japanese Navy."

The younger brother Nogi Duran, aged 8, writes as follows:

"To my hero, General Tojo:

"I am in the kindergarten school and will soon enter the first grade of the Japanese Language School. I already have learned katakana.

"A friend of mine gave me a picture of you. I also have cut out many pictures of you which appeared in the newspapers.

"I have seen Japanese newsreels and I am very fond of Japanese soldiers. Many of them are seen in Manila.

"Christmas is a busy scene here, but in Japan, I think New Year is more celebrated.

"With your duties in this war I think you are very busy so please take good care of your health.

"I am praying always for Japan to win this war."

The two brothers have been attending Japanese Language Schools from before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. The elder brother can read, speak, and write the Japanese language very well.

Their father, Dr. Pio Duran, who is a leading pro-Japanese advocater because of his deep admiration for two great commanders of the Russo-Japanese War, the late Fleet-Admiral Marquis Heihachiro Togo and General Count Maresuke Nogi, named his two sons after them.

Even at his home, he has a Japanese room with "tatami" and also a Japanese garden.

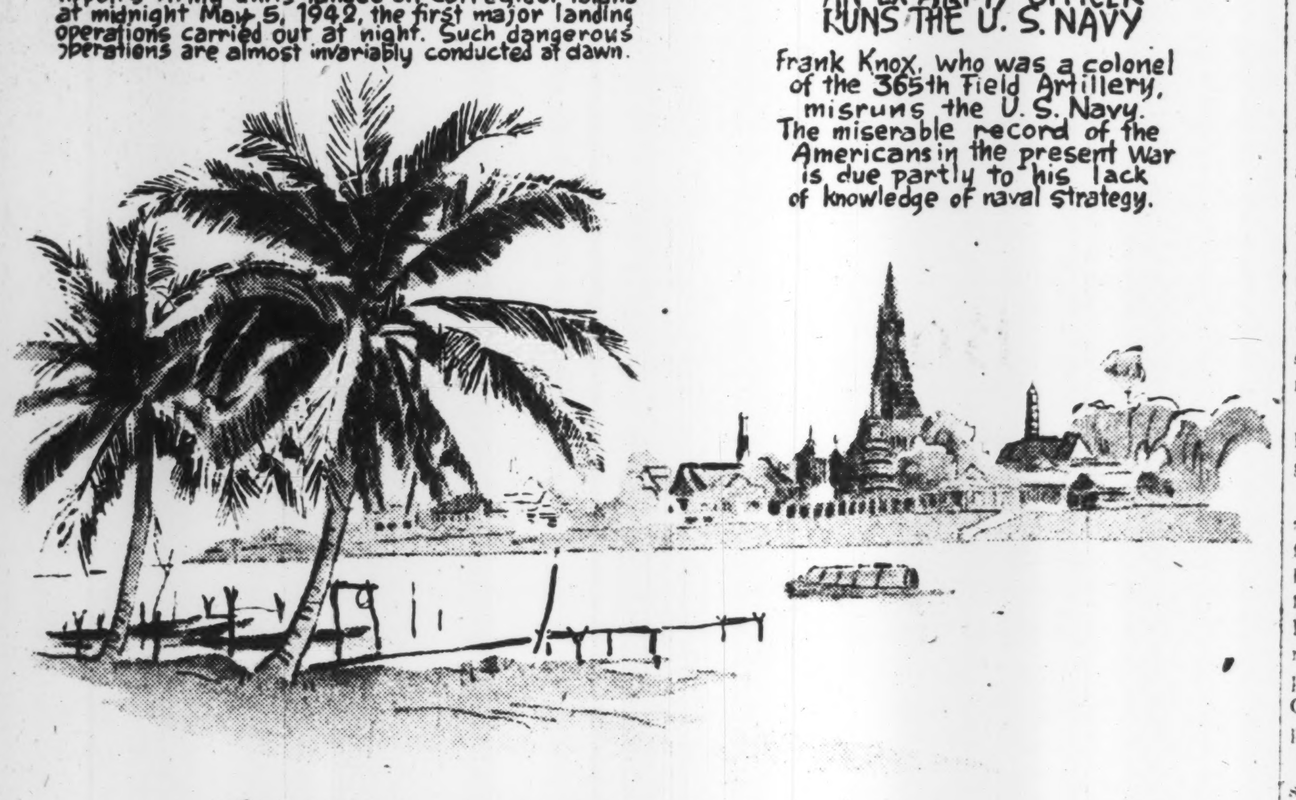
STRANGER THAN FICTION

FIRST MIDNIGHT LANDING

Nippon's Army units landed on Corregidor Island at midnight May 5, 1942, the first major landing operations carried out at night. Such dangerous operations are almost invariably conducted at dawn.

AN EX-ARMY OFFICER RUNS THE U. S. NAVY

Frank Knox, who was a colonel of the 365th Field Artillery, misruns the U. S. Navy. The miserable record of the Americans in the present War is due partly to his lack of knowledge of naval strategy.



THE MENAM CHAO PHAYA RIVER OF THAILAND
is affected by the tide 50 miles inland

Corregidor, the Gibraltar of the Pacific, the $100,000,000 rocky bastion built by the United States, was considered impregnable. Immediately after the Spanish-American war, General Aguinaldo kept up resistance on Corregidor against the American forces for more than three years, although at that time the island was practically unfortified. At 11:15 p.m. on May 5 last year, the Imperial Army and Naval Forces carried out daring landing operations in front of the fortresses. In only 32 hours they destroyed the enemy forces. The feat is unequalled in the world's history of military achievements.

Entitled Stranger Than Fiction, original drawings of true facts from life will hereafter be carried as a regular semi-weekly feature of the Nippon Times. The drawings are reproduced merely to illustrate legends which, unless we have definite proof to back their authenticity and accuracy, will naturally not be published. Stranger than Fiction will appear hereafter on Sundays and Thursdays.

New Name Adopted

The Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun and the Osaka Mainichi Shimbun will be issued under a new name of Mainichi Shimbun with its editorial office in Tokyo beginning from January 1.

HIS MAJESTY HOLDS SACRED CEREMONIES

(Continued From Page 1)

clearly indicated.

"His Imperial Majesty also received in audience representatives of various religious organizations.

"The desire to see productive power expanded phenomenally prompted His Imperial Majesty to grant an audience to leaders of industrial and economic circles in the country.

"We are deeply moved by the thoughts given by His Imperial Majesty to the officers and men at the front and the people behind the guns.

"Her Majesty the Empress keeps in a quite excellent humor. There is a steady increase in the business which occupies Her Imperial Majesty in the Inner Palace. Her Imperial Majesty finds time to comfort wounded and sick officers and men by granting to them bandages made by Her and flowers from the Shinjiku Imperial Garden.

"In December last year Her Imperial Majesty paid another visit to the Yokosuka Naval Hospital, First Temporary Army Hospital, and Military Medical College and personally comforted the wounded and sick soldiers there.

"Her Imperial Majesty was present at the general meeting of the Nippon Red Cross Society, and was pleased to grant a message in which the members of the organization were exhorted to do their best to serve the State by engaging in war relief work.

"Her Majesty the Empress Dowager continues in enjoyment of good health.

"Her Imperial Majesty pays great attention to the relief of sufferers from leprosy. From year to year Her Imperial Majesty does these unfortunate persons acts of charity. Her Imperial Majesty some time ago made a gift of seeds of the cotton plants in the Shinjuku Imperial Garden to the inmates of leper hospitals to comfort them.

"Her Imperial Majesty has great sympathy with the soldiers who have lost their sight. Her Imperial Majesty had watches specially made for the use of the blind. They have been granted in five lots to sightless soldiers. I can imagine how deeply they were moved by these Imperial gifts.

"His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince has reached the age of 11. His Imperial Highness is gaining in intellectual power and physical strength.

His Imperial Highness, full of vitality, goes to school every morning, walking to the elementary department of the Peers' School where His Imperial Highness is a student. He is receiving the same education as that received by ordinary students in his class.

"His Imperial Highness took part in a recent athletic meet of the school. The sight of His Imperial Highness contesting a game with all his might impressed us deeply. The thought occurred to us that the qualities endowed by nature were developing in the Heir to the Throne of Dai Nippon.

"His Imperial Highness Prince Yoshi, Her Imperial Highness Princess Teru, Her Imperial Highness Princess Taka, Her Imperial Highness Princess Yori, and Her Imperial Highness Princess Suga are in excellent humor and good in health. This indicates the eternal prosperity of the Imperial Family. This is a matter for hearty congratulation.

"It rejoices us exceedingly to welcome the New Year in the midst of brilliant victories scored by the Imperial Forces in the War of Greater East Asia and observe the Imperial Family in prosperity. All of us, whose good fortune it is to be living at this particular time, feel bound to act in a body in proceeding with the work of bringing the war to a completely successful end and in setting the Imperial Mind at rest, no matter whether we are at the front or at home behind the guns."

RESEARCH BODY TO STUDY SOUTH CLIMATE EFFECTS

Experts Will Report Findings to Government With Recommendations

A research institute which has been established by the South Seas Association to investigate living conditions in the Southern Regions will launch its first project by studying the effects of the tropical climate on settlers from regions of a temperate climate.

A committee of selected experts will be delegated to conduct research on the high tropical temperature, intense sunlight, heavy rainfall and excessive humidity of the Southern Regions which impair the minds of settlers who have migrated from areas of milder climate. Their findings will be revealed to the Government with recommendations for appropriate steps to be taken to remedy the situation.

Experts also will be sent to research and medical organizations engaged in the study of tropical sanitation in the Southern Regions, while facilities will be offered to instruct physicians who intend to practice in the South.

The South Seas Association also will maintain a health consultation office for the benefit of those who live or intend to emigrate to the South, while it will offer lectures, courses, roundtable discussions and exhibitions as well as publish a monthly magazine "Southern Life" and other books to instill a true appreciation and understanding of the Southern Regions.

ARMY UNITS CRUSH FOE IN TAPIEHSHAN

Enemy Flees Before Rapid Japanese Drives in Hupeh Leaving 1,500 Dead

Domei

HANKOW, December 30.—In their operations in the Tapiehshan region in Hupeh Province, the Japanese Forces have crushed the enemy which has fled leaving 1,500 dead, it was revealed here today.

Launching operations early this month against the enemy which had been showing activity in the Tapiehshan sector, units of the Japanese Forces in rapid order occupied Chishui on December 19, Wongmei the following day and Lotien on December 25.

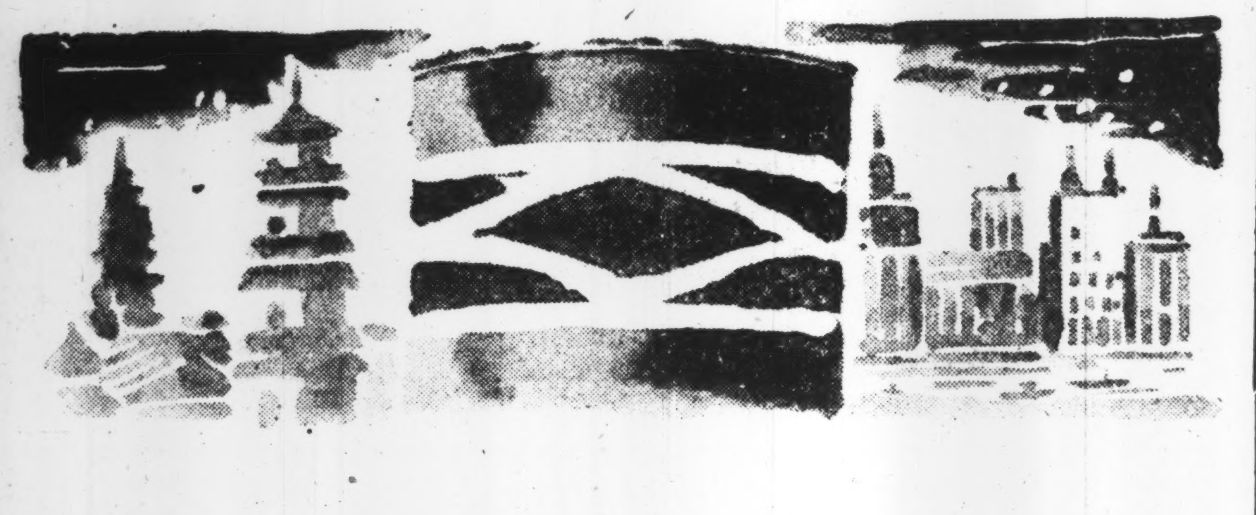
Another Japanese unit, which started its smashing drive against the foe along the lower reaches of the Yangtze, reduced Taihu and Tsienshan while still another unit, moving northward from Taihu, smashed the enemy's 402nd division.

The unit which captured Chishui continued its drive and at noon on December 27, occupied Yingshan, a strategic point in the Tapiehshan region, and wiped out some 1,500 enemy troops at dawn on the following day. The same unit is still continuing operations against the fleeing enemy remnants.

The war results gained up to December 30, consist of:

Enemy dead	1,500
Prisoners	150
Heavy machine guns captured	3
Rifles captured	264

Huge quantities of other arms and ammunition were also captured and 80 enemy barracks were destroyed.



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Nippon

New Year Greetings

COLUMBIA'S Exclusive Foreign Artists join us in tendering our deep thanks to all our friends for the support and patronage given during the past year.

We wish to express our sincere hope that the New Year will bring Happiness and Prosperity to all.

Conductor:
Bruno Walter
W. Furtwaengler
F. Reiner
Felix Weingartner

Violin:
Joseph Szigeti
Nathan Milstein
Alexandre Moguilewsky

Piano:
Walter Gieseking
Emil von Sauer
Leonid Kreutzer

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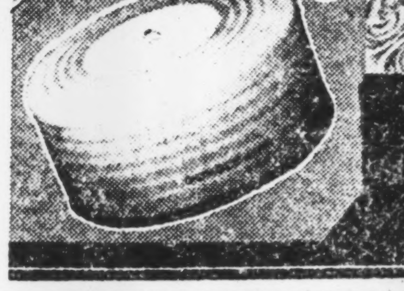

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"STAND BY TO SUBMERGE!"—A GRIPPING TALE OF LIFE ON A SUBMARINE

Things Which Are Taken for Granted in Ordinary Life Are Luxuries in an Undersea Warship—"We Head Straight for a Battle Near the Solomon Islands"

By MASAHARU OTSUBO
Domei War Correspondent With the Imperial Navy

Domei

SOUTHERN Naval Port, (By mail).—Three puffing tugboats had pulled us away from the pier and we had just waved goodbye to the men on the other warships in the harbor when the clear sharp notes of a bugle sounded over the forward deck of the submarine.

"Stand by to submerge!" There was a clatter of feet on the wooden slats of the deck as men scrambled for the hatch to crawl inside. We were on our way aboard one of Japan's biggest and newest of long-range submarines on a 10,000 mile voyage on the high seas to hunt the biggest game in the world—enemy convoy vessels and warships.

On the day before my scheduled departure, I arrived at the naval base with my belongings in one small suitcase. Presenting my credentials and explaining my duties to the sentry at the gate, I was allowed to enter the carefully guarded interior.

For a naval base at war, the atmosphere was surprisingly quiet and peaceful. Groups of sailors on leave clad in smart white uniforms were being discharged on to the pier from launches. Others were waiting for their boats to take them back to their respective ships.

Drizzle Sets In

Signs of war and the silent efficiency of the Navy were apparent, however, as camouflaged vessels arrived unheralded into the harbor and dropped anchor or quietly slipped out. Airplanes, also, were constantly taking off from a nearby airfield and roaring overhead in sham dogfights.

A fine drizzle had set in and a northern wind had whipped the bay into choppy waters by the time my launch arrived. It was an open craft and I was drenched by the time I arrived at the submarine. Passing a row of submarines and rounding the prow of the one I was to board, I was struck by its appearance at close range. It resembled some dark, ill-tempered sea monster, wallowing in the water and ready to strike out with terrifying deadliness. The launch pulled up alongside the small gangway ladder and I jumped aboard.

Soon I met the commander of "our ship," the captain and the other officers on deck. The commander was the only officer in uniform. He was tall, broad shouldered and had a thin graying moustache. His responsibilities were heavy and required clear thinking and quick action. There was an occasional twinkle of devil may care daring about his friendly eyes. The other officers were in brown dungarees like the rest of the sailors and there was no way of telling the officers from the men. The casual informality aboard was surprisingly pleasant. Looking at my small case and typewriter, one of the officers smiled, "Is that all you've brought?" I answered yes and he ordered one of the sailors to carry them below. I followed the sailor down into the hot close quarters inside.

All Take to Posts

The hatches were banged shut, and everyone was at his post. Orders were barked from the order room. "Open vents!" The water rushed gurgling into the tanks and I could feel the craft sinking slowly. I felt that queer light feeling as when one goes down in an elevator. Air pressure increased and pressed on my eardrums. I opened my mouth and took a swallow.

A tense quietness prevailed throughout the submarine. Everyone was awaiting orders, for this was only a trial submergence. Soon the orders came. Valves were opened and a terrific hissing sound filled the room—air was being pumped into the tanks to blow the ballast. The decreasing air pressure again made me swallow. We rose slowly and levelled off. Soon the at ease order came and everyone went about their other business.

I surveyed my room. I felt as though I were on some fantastic trip to the moon aboard a rocket ship. The rounded sides of the walls without windows, the division of the compartments with small hatches between and the gentle rocking of the ship on the swell all tended to give this impression. Two tiers of bunks lined each side of the room and two tables were in the center with benches on each side.

On the wall to my left were three picture frames. In the center frame were written the five duties of the soldier as ordained by the late Emperor Meiji. The words were written by Fleet Admiral Togo in his characteristic strong handwriting. "It is the duty of the soldier to serve with unfailing loyalty. The soldier is courteus. The soldier esteems and honors bravery. The soldier observes good faith. The soldier aims at simplicity and frugality." The other two frames enclosed a typical Japanese country scene and a photograph of the submarine.

Miniature Shrine Installed

To the far end of these quarters were two small booth-like chambers, one for the commander and the other for the captain. Between them, near the ceiling, was installed a miniature Shinto Shrine.

In each bunk was a sword rack to hold the regulation saber for dress and parade and a Japanese sword for fighting. French dolls, knicknacks and photographs decorated each bunk according to the whims of their occupants.

This was the officers room, and while some pains had been taken to make it look roomy, there was not one inch of wasted space. The other rooms were even more crowded. The ceiling and walls of the room next to ours was covered with hundreds of dials, red and blue lights, handles and levers. From this room a tunnel led up to the conning tower. The engine room was a solid mass of intricate machinery with the ceiling almost touching the men's heads as they stood at their positions. In the narrow aisles, the men squeezed past each other sideways.

I was shown my bunk on top and I crawled into it with considerable difficulty. On the blankets were three shirts, three pairs of short pants and a pair of leather-soled canvas shoes. These were my work clothes and I was to wear them during the trip. The bunk itself was small and narrow. There was a small bookcase at my feet and by sticking them under it I could manage somehow to lie down at full length. There was no room to spare, however, as my head and toes touched the walls at the ends, and by lifing my knees I could touch the ceiling.

It's Good to Get Outside

A few days out I was allowed to go up into the conning tower. I struggled up the iron rungs of the ladder through a narrow tunnel. A terrific wind was blowing down the hatch and it was all I could do to keep my footing. This wind was being sucked in for the engines and for ventilation. Once outside, I stood up gingerly in the small, half-enclosed streamlined cabin. I walked back to the open deck and took a look at the sky. It was good to get outside after being down below so long.

A number of officers and men scattered at vantage points on deck had their eyes glued to binoculars on the lookout for the enemy.

The captain called me and asked how I was feeling and how I was enjoying my meals. He told me that anytime I felt queer in the stomach I could come up for air. "Nothing like the sea breeze to put you back in shape," he said.

I looked over the railing. The water was flowing smoothly past the sides of the ship, while at the numerous holes in the side of the ship, water rushed in when the craft slipped down and was discharged in numerous white cascades as the ship nosed up. I asked the captain the speed at which we were traveling. The ease with which the slim hull slipped through the water was deceiving. The long bows of the craft cut through the waters and the slim hull followed trough without creating the sied waves so usual of an ordinary ship. At the long tapering stern which was sheared to the waterline, the screws were churning up a white frothy wake which trailed back hundreds of yards to disappear in the waves.

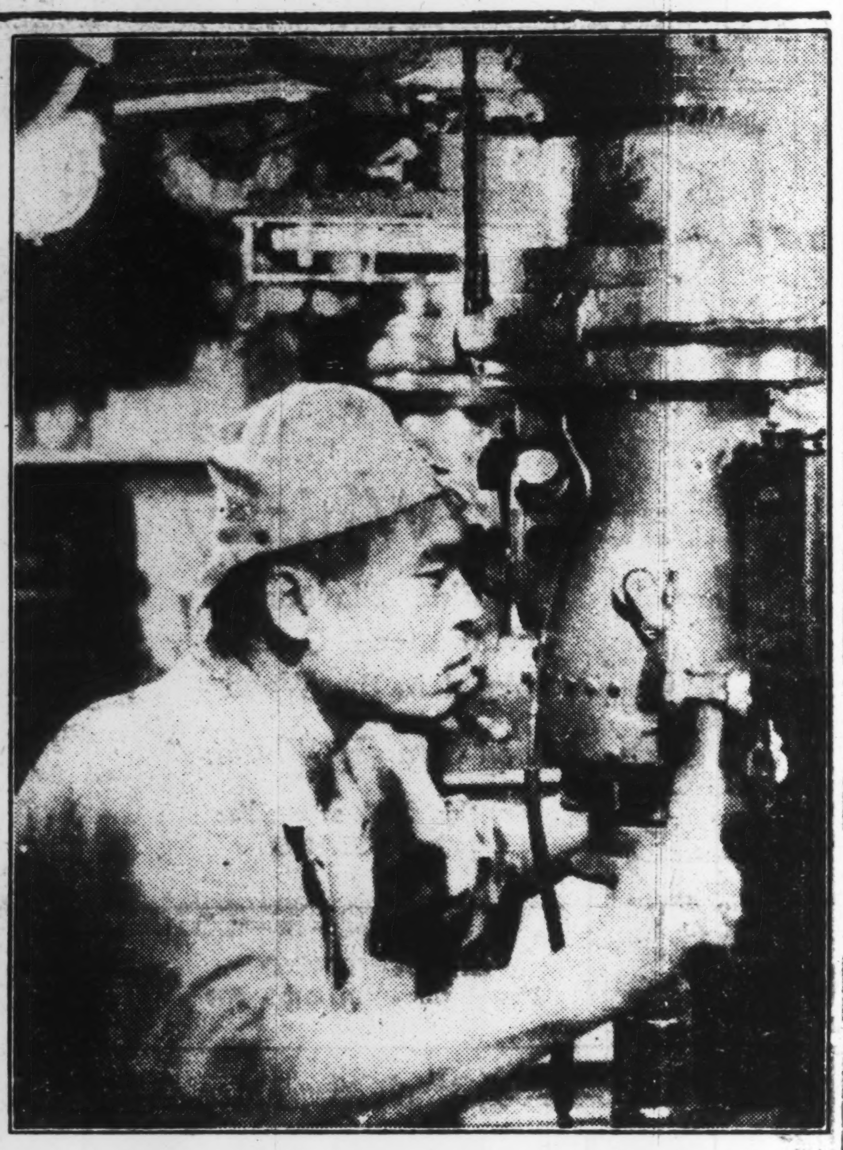
Takes Last Look Around

From this small island of steel rushing through the sea I took a last look around. We seemed to be in the middle of a gigantic bowl of water with the sea rising around as in a wide circle. To the west, the setting sun had tinted to a delicate pink the bunches of cumulous clouds which looked like soft warm silken fluffs floating on the sharp, blue edge of the horizon.

I went below little realizing that this was the last time I was to see the sun for more than a month and half.

Life aboard a submarine—not unlike life in terra firma—Consists of mixture of pleasantness and unpleasantness. In a U-boat, however, plenty of thrills and excitement compensate for the endless days of confinement to narrow quarters without sight of sea or sky.

In no other warship of the navy is there such a feeling of intimacy among the officers and men. Here, one can almost imagine that rank has been disregarded as the officers talk and joke freely with the men—which is impossible on a larger ship where the officers hardly see the men, let alone joke with them. The officers readily call the men by their names and know their different traits and habits, while the men know the officers just as well and respect and obey them for what they are.



Up periscope! An officer of an Imperial Navy submarine looks for enemy ships in the waters in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. (Passed by the Navy Ministry)

There is a common feeling that when they die they will die together, for escape from a submarine, once it is hit, is nearly always impossible. A survivor of a submarine is rare. Another thing which the members of a submarine have in common and which no doubt contributes to their comradeship is the food. From the commander down to the lowest sailor everyone eats the same fare. And, contrary to the general notion, it is very simple and frugal.

Many Irksome Hardships

On the unpleasant side of submarine life are many petty and irksome hardships. Things which we take for granted in ordinary life are luxuries in a submarine. For instance, looking at the sky, breathing fresh air, smoking, walking, lying down full length with room to roll around in, stretching and bathing.

Smoking is absolutely prohibited when the ship is submerged. To see the men dying for a smoke when nerves are on edge after meeting up with the enemy inspires the profound sympathy of all smokers. Only when we are running on the surface is smoking allowed—and that in only two places on the entire ship; in the washroom, a small cubby hole near the engine room, and up in the conning tower. The washroom is invariably crowded, and permission to go outside is limited to certain times, usually at night.

There are three wooden plaques indicating the time when certain members of the crew can go outside. When the A board is hung by the ladder leading outside, none but the lookouts, usually the officers, can go up. When the B board is up, the officers and a few men can go up, and the C board is up only when ships is in port. This means that most of the men never see daylight from the time of departure until entry into some port, usually a matter of months.

One of the first things I was shown when we submerged was the toilet and how to work it. A mere landlubber, or even a sailor who has never been aboard a submarine can never imagine what the toilet looks like. The toilet room, like the other rooms, is full of the pipes, valves, switches and levers. The toilet itself is a highly complicated mechanism.

An Embarrasing Problem

As there are naturally more men than there are toilets, use of such facilities is not readily had, and one must regulate the digestive system to go when they are least crowded. It seems to be some problem for the captain told me that they tried making a time schedule so that a certain number of men would go at certain times. It didn't work, however. There is another toilet outside under the conning tower, but nobody uses it except when in port. The captain told me gruesome tales of men who were left there to die unnoticed when the submarine suddenly submerged.

Once during the early part of the voyage the monotony of the daily routine was broken as the men took a bath in the washroom. Bath is a misnomer, for there is no such thing aboard. There is one shower, and the men just pour a little water over themselves and scrub. Nevertheless, we were to pay dearly for this extravagant use of water because a few weeks later it was being strictly rationed. We were allowed to wash our faces once every three days with about a quart of water. By the time the third day came around the dirt had collected so much that the sprinkling of a little water over our faces seemed altogether useless. It is then that wiskers, beards and sideburns come into their own. The dead skin virtually come off in cakes, and it is no matter at all to make a big black roll of it a quarter inch in dishwater by rubbing the chest with the fingers.

Saying Is Only Half True

The saying that the Navy gets good food and that the submarines get the best in the Navy is only half true. It is true that the navy does get good food but every bit of nourishment in it is needed absolutely for the men to carry on their duties. Food aboard a submarine is not so good, and there is a reason for this. There is no other ship of its size that can cruise to such distances and for such a long time without refueling. As food must either be kept in storage in a refrigerator, something which cannot be incorporated in the narrow confines of a submarine, or canned, the crew of a submarine eat canned meat, canned food. Canned vegetables, canned meat, canned fish and canned fruit from which all the vitamins have been taken out make up our daily diet. I had never before realized how unnourishing and tasteless canned food could be. Everyone takes vitamin pills three times daily. At first I neglected this precaution and in a week my legs began to feel heavy and tired. I told the doctor about it and he ordered me the pills.

Getting a haircut aboard a submarine at sea is an experience I do not wish to repeat. One of the sailors cut my hair and he had only the crudest implements. He borrowed my comb. He sat me on a box in the center of the room. The submarine was rolling back and fourth, and every time I rocked toward him or he toward me and got within range, the sailor would snap the shears with some quantity of my locks between its blades. Sometimes the range-finding was unsuccessful and the empty snippers would close with a chilling swish anywhere in the vicinity of my ears and cranium. In 30 minutes the operation was pronounced finished. The barber was sweating from his exertions and so was I from less altruistic reasons. I dispensed with a shave since he told me that the razor wasn't very sharp. Also I didn't quite have the courage to have him shaving around my ears while the ship was pitching and rolling as it was. The usual kibitzers came around to praise or to condemnation and to tell the barber how to do it. The barber was very modest about his talent and kept telling me that when we entered our base I could get a real haircut aboard the mother ship.

No Pitching Below

A submarine is made to roll on beam-ends. It is long, narrow and round. While it does not pitch from stem to stern so much, the side roll will tip over a glass of water in heavy weather. In exceptional storms we could submerge beneath the waves where there would be no pitching or rolling, but we don't for the simple reason that the air would get bad and the precious electricity of the batteries would be used up. Also we would not be able to smoke. Therefore we remain above water even in the roughest weather. The following, is a day's entry in my diary.

—Stormy weather. We are running into the center of a typhoon.

The sea is getting rougher hourly and things are falling to the floor. The drawer lining the wall slid out and fell to the floor as the ship gave an unexpected lurch and the room looked like a rummage sale in a department store.

At dinner the captain came in all wrapped up in waterproof clothing, high boots and storm hat looking like a venerable old pirate with his ruddy face shiny and wet with the brine.

A young officer went by saying that we were in for still more stormy weather. He took off his dripping clothes and washed the salt water off his face at a small collapsible basin in the wall. His eyes were red and swollen from the sprays which dashed against his face as he kept watch. He said big towering seas came crashing over the conning tower and at times completely encased the ship from stem to stern.

Through the walls of my bunk I can hear the waves roaring and breaking overhead. I settled down prepared for a bad night.

Morning. At breakfast all the dishes went sliding off the port side of the table when a big breaker struck the submarine. Everyone grabbed what he could, but the rest went over the edge in a crushing cataract of dishes, bowls, sauce and salt shaker. Thereafter wooden slats were brought out and put around the table. Cups were only half.

By some good luck I haven't been seasick yet. I can't imagine a more miserable place to get seasick than aboard a submarine. The men ask me if this is my first trip on a submarine as if it is the most natural thing for a civilian to board a submarine, and look surprised when I tell them that this is my first trip aboard a ship of the navy of any description.

• • •

As we neared hostile waters, battle orders were issued one morning.

Soon after we came up, there was a sound above as if someone was pounding with a hammer on the steel plates of the ship. Anti-aircraft guns up in the conning tower were going into action. About 10 shots were fired in rapid succession from each gun to prime them for battle. Later, the torpedo officer went forward to put everything in order.

From the blacked-out conning tower I could see the men working below by the light of the moon. The captain ordered the artillery officer to get his men into practice with the gun. The commander, the captain and the navigation officer were constantly looking over charts and discussing strategy.

Another battle was developing near the Solomon Islands and we were heading straight for it. Soon we would be in its midst. If we are lucky we might bag a battleship or aircraft carrier.

I had just crawled into my bunk and was fitfully dozing off to sleep about 1:30 o'clock one morning when the alert was sounded. Men were jumping out of their bunks and rubbing the sleep out of their eyes while running to their positions. We had sighted an enemy guerilla unit composed of an aircraft carrier, two cruisers and five destroyers. The men gave me a knowing grin as they went about their work. We had not expected such good luck so soon.

Submarines Half Submerged

In the torpedo room an officer was directing his men, adjusting levers and valves before a row of deadly torpedo tubes. On the rack to their rear were more torpedoes, their smooth sides gleaming wickedly in the light.

The submarine rode gently on the waves half submerged. The enemy was still too far away and we waited. Soon orders came; numbers were called as we came within striking range. The enemy aircraft carrier came closer and closer, its big, black hull looming in the darkness. I thought of the hundreds of sailors aboard it sleeping peacefully in their bunks. "Their dreams would soon be shattered by the rocking detonation of our torpedoes and they would soon be at the bottom of the sea." As these and other thoughts flashed through by head, suddenly, the alarm bell rang out.

We had been sighted by an enemy airplane and five destroyers were bearing down upon us at full speed. We submerged immediately. The airplanes dropped a bomb at us and missed. It could be heard exploding above us and to the right. Orders were given in rapid succession while someone was calling numbers indicating how far down we were sinking.

The atmosphere inside the submarine became quiet as the water gradually covered us. All the unnecessary motors, including the electric fans and the refrigerators were turned off.

Flashlights and extra light bulbs were taken out for sometimes the filaments in the lamps break with the shock of the depth bombs and throws the room into darkness.

Talk In Whispers

Everyone walked about on tiptoe and talked in whispers. The enemy could not possibly hear us talking hundreds of yards away through the water and the whispering seemed ridiculous at first, but the nerves of the men were strained to the breaking point for the indication of anything out of the ordinary and talking in an ordinary voice would be especially jarring. The men even joked and laughed in a whisper. It soon came. Far to our right and above us the faint crash of a depth charge went off. After a short interval the booming of more depth bombs was heard, much closer this time. The enemy destroyers were searching for us with their sound detectors. Soon they were dropping their charges one after another and two together, and they began to crash all around us. A sharp metallic sound of the detonater would go off first, followed by a reverberating boom. The next sound was a long drawn out crash like the breaking of a big plate-glass window as the sea mushroomed skyward and then crashed back to the surface.

Five enemy destroyers were frantically circling around us above. The bombing would stop while they listened for the sound of our screws. Then when they thought they had found us they would drop more bombs. Meanwhile, our men in the sound detector room also were busy listening for the enemy destroyers and communicating their positions to the commander. It became a grim hide and seek game with death. This state of affairs continued from early morning to nightfall.

Once the enemy found our approximate position for the sound of their propellers could be heard overhead. The bombs seemed to bounce off our sides and explode with a reverberating crash that shook and vibrated our walls. The excitement caused hundreds of bewildered cockroaches to crawl from their hiding places to rush about for fresh cover. With nothing to do but to sit tight and hope that none of the bombs would hit us, I counted them. I numbered 38 explosions before they stopped; the sound instruments recorded twice as many.

Toward sundown the enemy destroyers went away and we cautiously came up. I was dead tired and my nerves were jumpy from listening to the bombs, although I had done practically nothing during all this time. Nobody had had any rest since early morning and we had eaten iron rations only once. That night the commander ordered beer all around.

After that encounter with the enemy I felt that there was no urgent necessity to sink any enemies—not for a while at least. My nervousness was in sharp contrast to the calmness of the sailors who were used to such dangers and nonchalantly went about their work. These sailors were veterans of many encounters as this submarine already had sunk some dozen vessels since the outbreak of the war. They admitted, however, that "You can't get used to depth bombs no matter how often you hear them."

For the next few days we cruised around the vicinity hoping to meet our quarry again, but the carrier was now far away and eventually we gave up the hunt. Things soon became quiet and settled down to the old routine.

• • •

We are heading north toward our base. Everyone is in high spirits at the prospect of being able to see the sky again and tread the earth. Letters from home also are waiting to be read. As we gradually leave enemy waters, the lengths of time we remain submerged become shorter. The captain and the navigation officer measure on the charts the distance from enemy air bases and figure when we would be able to remain above the water during the day without the danger of being discovered by aircraft.

As we passed the equator the men repeated that old gag of the sea changing to a deep red color at the equator.

At night I went up into the conning tower and took a breath of the outside air for the first time in weeks. There was no moon and it was so dark outside that at first I thought we were in a fog. As my eyes gradually became accustomed to the darkness, I could make out the dim shape of our craft slipping silently through an inky black sea so clam and smooth that the light from the stars were reflected on its glassy surface like shimmering pale-blue filaments. The air was warm and still and the waves rolled out from each side of the bow in smooth unbroken ripples, while blobs of blue-white evanescent sea life floated by.

Everybody Takes a Shower

One of the men had just come up and as he looked around he gave a start and exclaimed, "I thought the stars on the sea were the lights of enemy ships!"

The water which we had been saving now could be used and everyone took a shower and washed their soiled clothes, which had been worn so long and which were so full of grime, grease and dead skin that they felt more like discarded pieces of our bodies than external apparel. Much soap water went down the drain before they were even half clean.

One morning as we neared port, there was a flurry of excitement aboard when we sighted the periscope of an enemy submarine cutting ominously through the water. Nothing happened, however, as we immediately cut a zigzag course. There was no way to attack the enemy and the enemy could not attack us. Enemy submarines make it their habit to lurk near the entrances of important bases as that is where the ships converge to enter port.

Luckily in this case the sea was calm and the enemy periscope was immediately detected. The best time for a submarine to approach its objective unseen is when the sea is choppy with white capped waves.

The men were busy cleaning and putting things in order. Soon the bathtubs sunk in the deck outside would be used and the men will take their first real bath in weeks. Ice which is produced by the refrigeration plant for cooling the batteries will be used to cool the beer and the men will be given drinks upon entry into port.

The sun had just cleared the horizon and was shining with a glaring brightness in the sky when the men came up from below. They squinted at each other sheepishly in the broad light of day and noticed their ghastly pale complexions. The brightness of the sun hurt their eyes as they blinked and looked around. Ahead lay the land with its mountain and trees looming green and solid on the horizon. To the sailor, the sight of land is always welcome, but to these men who had not seen even the sea or the sky for so long the sight of these things all at once was almost overwhelming.

A Japanese submarine sallies forth. Comrades send off the sleek undersea warship. (Passed by the Navy Ministry)

About the Author

Masaharu Otsubo, 28, member of the Domei English staff, was granted permission to accompany a Japanese submarine crew in actual war operation. This description of life in an undersea warship of the Imperial Navy was written during an extensive cruise to the south and airmailed to the head-office upon the submarine's arrival at an undisclosed port.

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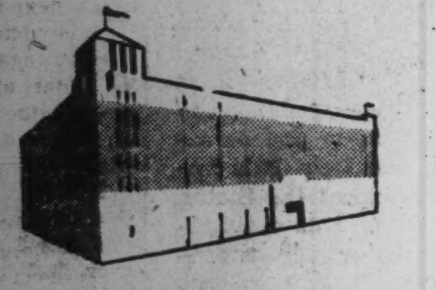

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Koshien
Manager: T. KAGAWA — Phone: Nishinomiya 2115

TAKARAZUKA HOTEL
Takarazuka
Manager: K. KANO — Phone: Takarazuka 31

KOBE HOTEL
Yamamoto-dori 2-chome
Proprietor: I. MATSUMOTO — Phone: Fukiai 6785

YAMATO HOTEL
Nakayamate-dori 2-chome
Manager: T. UCHIDA — Phone: Fukiai 4924

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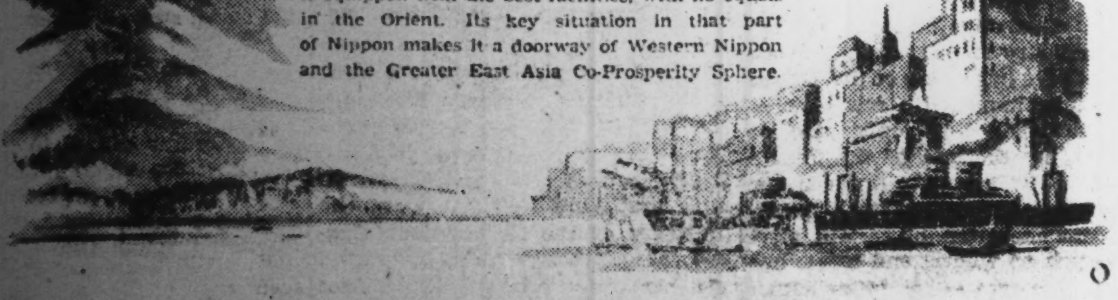
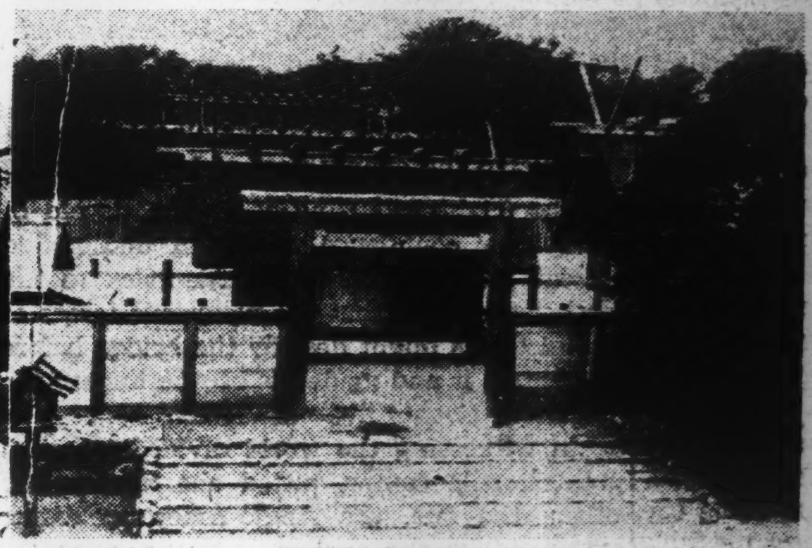
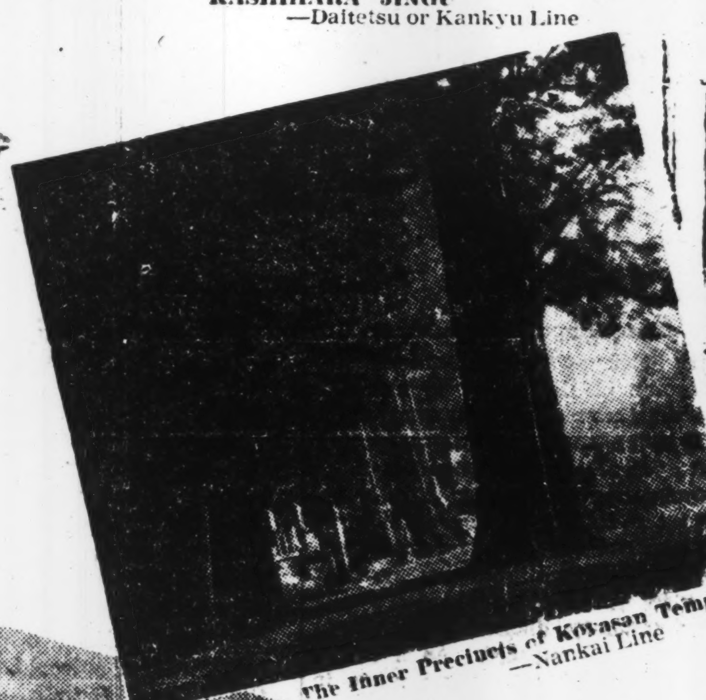


KASHIHARA JINGU
—Daitetsu or Kankyu Line



ATSUTA JINGU, Nagoya
—Kankyu Line



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TOKYO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1943

Dawn of the New Year

Today the nation welcomes the dawn of the Year of Promise with a peaceful and quietly confident heart. It is most appropriate, hence, at this time to turn our thoughts in reverence and gratitude to the direction of His Imperial Majesty, to whom all honor and glory is due, who by His gracious virtue enables His subjects to celebrate the New Year with thanksgiving for the bountiful blessings of the past and for the glorious hope for the future. Our hearts are filled with a sense of gratitude when we reflect how few are the peoples in the world today who are in a position to welcome the New Year as we are. We bow our heads in reverence to the ascended souls of our heroes who counted it nought to give their lives for His Imperial Majesty and their country. We also lift up our hearts with overflowing gratitude to the officers and men of the Imperial Forces, on land, sea, and in the air, who, not counting their hardships, stand firm at their respective posts along the far-flung battle-lines for the safety of their Fatherland.

It is not inappropriate on such a wartime New Year Day to reflect quietly on the war, particularly on the War of Greater East Asia which concerns us directly. The power of conducting quiet searchings of the heart and of making objective observations of the events which crowd about us is a gift of God. By detaching ourselves from our immediate environment and from our own time, we may not unprofitably spend a few minutes of the morning of this Dawn of the Year 2603 in watching with the eyes of eternal man the flow of events and their significance in their relations to the eternal values.

The War of Greater East Asia recalls the Fifth Century B.C., when the Persians attempted the invasion of Greece. The colossus of the ancient Persian Empire and the diminutive Greek states, representing two markedly different civilizations, lying across the Aegean Sea, which was to the ancients as vast as the Pacific is to us today, were pitted against each other in a life and death struggle.

The ancient Persians relied on their great fighting, power and material resources. Mardonius, one of the generals of King Xerxes, incited his master to undertake a military expedition to Greece. These were what he said according to Herodotus: "What is it that we fear in the Hellenes? Not surely their numbers—not the greatness of their wealth. We know the manner of their battle—we know how weak their power is; already have we subdued their children who dwell in our country." In reading these words of Mardonius recorded by the father of history one cannot help recalling the words of some men in Washington.

Despite his over-confidence in the strength of his great army, the King of Persia, prompted by a curious desire to know something about Greece from a native Greek, took delight in questioning Demaratus, a king of Sparta, who was then an exile at the court of Xerxes. Constrained by strong pressure, the exiled king of Sparta opened his mouth.

"O King," said Demaratus, "since thou biddest me at all risks speak the truth, and not say what will one day prove me to have lied to thee, thus I answer. Poverty has at all times been a fellow-dweller with us in Greece, while Valor is an ally whom we have gained by dint of wisdom and strict laws. Valor enables us to drive out want and escape thraldom. Brave are all the Greeks. Come what may, they will never accept thy terms, which will reduce Greece to slavery; and further, they are sure to join battle with thee. As for their numbers, do not ask how many they are; for if even only a thousand of them should take the field they will meet thy millions in battle."

Ancient Persia was not entirely devoid of the sane men. For instance, Artabanus, the king's uncle, besought his lord to desist from such an undertaking. His words are one of the few wisest bits of advice ever uttered by any servant to his master. "Seest thou," said Artabanus to his young king nephew, "how God with his lightning smitest always the bigger animals, and will not suffer them to wax insolent, while those of a lesser bulk He chafest not? How likewise His bolts fall ever on the highest houses and the tallest trees? So plainly does He love to bring down everything that exalts itself. Thus ofttimes a mighty host is discomfited by a few men, when God in His jealousy sends fear or storm from Heaven, and they perish in a way unworthy of them. For God allows no one to have high thoughts but Himself."

Spurning these words of wisdom Xerxes caused the construction of a floating bridge of ships from Abydos, across a strip of water known as the Dardanelles today, over to Europe. Prior to crossing to Europe, he reviewed his mighty host at Abydos. Herodotus tells us that the king's army totalled one million seven hundred thousand strong, and his navy consisted of 1,207 triremes. What happened to the Persian forces is familiar to all lovers of the classics. At the famous battle of Thermopylae, just as Demaratus had predicted, a handful of Spartan fighters under their valiant leader, King Leonidas, pitted themselves against one million of the Persian hordes, inflicting upon them such a crushing blow that the heart of Xerxes froze with fright. At Salamis, where the Persian men behaved like women and the Persian women like men, a small Greek naval force consisting only of 378 small ships nearly annihilated the enemy fleet of 1,207 triremes.

The frightened King of Persia, devoid of his former confidence, made an undignified retreat and crossed the Dardanelles to his territory for fear that the victorious forces of Themistocles might destroy the bridge before he crossed it and made his escape impossible.

After twenty-five centuries history is again witnessing the world divided into two great hostile camps, pitted one against the other; the one, the Anglo-American camp, arrogant like the ancient Persians, proud of their material wealth, and the other, the Axis camp, refusing to be cowed by the appearance of the material grandeur of the enemy, and perferring death to thraldom. The Greek victory twenty-five centuries ago determined the direction of the stream of future civilization now in the making shall be the materialistic Hedonism of Anglo-America, or whether it shall be the consummation of the spirit of the Axis, will entirely depend on the outcome of the War.

In order to exonerate itself from its own embarrassment, Washington has made capital out of the so-called treachery of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The intelligent people of the world, however, are not misled by Washington's propaganda. They need only to spread a map of the world before them to know the tutrh. The map reveals the vastness of the distance the Americans have covered in order to implant their aggression's outpost in Manila. It tells how small a task the Britons considered it to sail half way around the globe in order to build their citadels of greed at Singapore and Hongkong, and how like locusts the Dutch travelled so far to nip the beauty of the vegetation of the East Indies. These vast distances alone, and nothing else tell who the real aggressors of the world are. And these aggressors have been encroaching upon the peoples of East Asia for the past many centuries, and their claws, warm with the drippings of the blood of their victims, were directed at the throat of Japan the last of the really free peoples of East Asia. Japan has struck out for her freedom. Pearl Harbor is the twentieth century battle of Salamis. The boasted armada of Roosevelt, the modern Xerxes, was sent to the bottom of the blue Pacific by the determined attack of a few dozen Japanese aircraft. If Leonidas and Themistocles had not fought, thraldom would have been the portion for the Hellenes. If Japan had not stood up, slavery would have been the fate, not only of her sons, but of all the one billion souls of East Asia. Who says Themistocles committed a treacherous act? Let Xerxes cavil at him in vain.

Behind Japan is a year of victories; behind our enemies a year of catastrophes and failures. And the people of Japan have every determination to win the war of freedom in the New Year and to shatter their enemy completely to earn the right of survival for their children and their children's children, as well as for the entire one billion souls of East Asia. And we are confident that future humanity will be unsparing in their approbation of Japan of the Twentieth Century for having courageously stood up against her colossal foes in the assertion of her God-given freedom and right of survival.

A Year Ago Today

Jan. 1, 1942
From Our Own Files

With the Japanese Forces moving swiftly down the Malay Peninsula, British authorities proclaimed martial law for the whole of Singapore Island on December 30, according to a report from Lisbon.

JAPANESE TO SUPPLY ROLLING-STOCK TO ASIA

Recent Progress of This Industry Has Been Remarkable

(From the Toyo Keizai)

Japan's railroad industry, which since the year 1893 had been adopting the good points of foreign rolling-stock into its own and had been continuing vigorous independent, original research into the manufacture of rolling-stock, had by the Taisho Era succeeded in putting out freight cars, passenger coaches, and locomotives which compared favorably with foreign rolling-stock. At the present time the industry is meeting not only the demands in Japan, but also is exporting rolling-stock to Manchoukuo, China, and Thailand.

In the exportation of railway cars and locomotives to Thailand, Japan got the upper hand in a competition against the world's best railroad manufacturing companies many years ago when Thailand decided to purchase several hundred rolling-stock from Japan. Bids were made by the American Locomotive Company and others but Japan's bid was accepted. In view of the fact that at that time, the British influence in Thailand was strong, the acceptance of Japan's tender speaks volumes for our excellent rolling-stock. Since then, Japan exported many locomotives to Thailand, proving that the people of Thailand were satisfied with the fine performance of Japanese railway cars.

The first railway line was opened in Japan in 1872. By 1893, a research plant of the Government Railways had succeeded in manufacturing a locomotive for the first time and by 1896 had successfully designed a locomotive. In the same year, Railway Minister Inouye stressed the necessity of establishing a rolling-stock company, with the result that the Train Manufacturing Corporation (for the manufacture of locomotives) was set up in Osaka while in Nagoya, the Japan Rolling-Stock Corporation (for the manufacture of freight cars and passenger coaches) was established. In 1899 the locomotive No. 1 was out on the tracks, and by 1905 the Japanese engineers were successful in manufacturing the Abt system of locomotives.

Many Improvements Made

In 1906 with the Government's adoption of the policy to nationalize the railroads, the Railway Office was established and the major private railways were taken over by the Government. The first thing that the Railway Office did was to standardize the various parts of rolling-stock, and simultaneously, with a view to developing Japan's railroad industry, abolished the use of foreign railway cars. As a result, many improvements were made in the Japanese rolling-stock industry.

The 8620-type locomotive that was produced in 1913 was an epochal achievement. It was the result of Dr. Yasujiro Shima's improvement of the front wheels. The new locomotive weighed 83 tons, with a speed of 85 kilometers. The 8620-type was principally employed in drawing passenger coaches. Further improvements on this model resulted in the super-heated locomotives presently in use, the C-51 type, with two axles in the front row wheels, three axles in the driving wheels and one axle in the trailing wheel. For drawing freight cars, the Kawasaki Rolling-Stock Corporation in 1912 produced the super-heated 9600-type, with one axle in the front wheels and four axles in the driving wheels. Improvements made according to the blue-print of the Railways Ministry resulted in the manufacture of the 9900-type which later became the D-21 type. The latter was a gigantic engine weighing 127 tons. However, in view of the fact that a comparatively low-caloried coal is used, the boiler was made extraordinarily large. This locomotive was imitated in many foreign countries. The C-53 type in use now has been produced since 1928. At the present moment, research is being conducted on the D-52 type and should this be manufactured, the attention of all the world will undoubtedly be attracted to it.

Vigorous Research Responsible

One of the main reasons for the rapid progress of the rolling-stock industry in Japan was due primarily to the perseverance and vigorous research of the technicians of the Railway Office (later Railways Ministry) and the excellent leadership of the private rolling-stock companies. The Railway Office encouraged the establishment of private rolling-stock companies and to promote their development after the nationalization of the railways, entrusted them with the manufacture of new locomotives, freight cars, passenger coaches, other than first-class cars and dining cars, while the Government factories merely occupied themselves in repair work.

The Railways Ministry has adopted the following policy in regard to the guidance of the private rolling-stock companies. Every detail of the blue-print of all types of rolling-stock is drafted, even to the last bolt, by the Ministry. The blue-print is then handed to the private companies, and an official superintendent sent to guide the production of the cars. All the necessary materials such as steel materials, wheels, axles, automatic couplers, important brake parts, electrical part, important springs, cast metals, valves, etc., are first purchased by the Railways Ministry and then distributed to the private rolling-stock manufacturers.

Under the leadership of the Railways Ministry, the technicians of the private manufacturers are co-operating with the Ministry in research. Thus has Japan's rolling-stock industry made remarkable progress. At the beginning of the Taisho Era, Japan imported a few locomotives but they were only used as samples. By the end of the Taisho Era, Japan was able to produce her own necessary rolling stock parts, with the exception of certain steel parts such as wheels and axles, but even in the case of the latter Japan was in a position to supply them herself in the Showa Era.

As the highest industrialized nation in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, Japan must supply rolling-stock henceforth, not only to China, Manchoukuo and Thailand but also to the countries of the southern region. The mission imposed on the shoulders of the Japanese rolling-stock industry is enormous but in this connection, it is gratifying to learn what the president of the Rolling-stock Control Association, Dr. Yasujiro Shima, has said. "We should have no trouble at all to meet the demand for rolling-stock in the new southern regions which have come within Japan's sphere."

THE VOICE OF NIPPON

A Series of Special Contributions on the Vital Issues of the Day

THE SPECULATOR'S DREAM

By Dr. ICHIRO KIYOSE
Director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association and Member of the Diet

Taking the occasion of its renaming, the Nippon Times takes pleasure in presenting a new feature, "The Voice of Nippon," which will henceforth appear regularly on Sunday, with the exception of January 3. Penned by recognized authorities and commentators, these articles will endeavor to interpret for our international readers the events and topics of commanding and worthwhile interest.

The following is the list of distinguished contributors to the "Voice of Nippon":

Major-General Yahei Oba, retired
Mr. Ki Kimura, Novelist
Dr. Ichiro Kiyose, Member of the Diet
Dr. Kennosuke Kimbara, Professor, Keio University
Rear-Admiral Tanetsugu Sosa, retired
Mr. Yakichi Terada, Author
Mr. Shigeomi Nomura, Author
Mr. Katsu Hara, Author
Mr. Tadao Matsumoto, Member of the Diet
Mr. Masahiro Yasuoka, Philosopher
Mr. Sanehiko Yamamoto, President, Kaizo-sha

The most amusing of all the reports which have been received in this country through various channels since the declaration of war upon America and Britain is that, despite the continuous series of defeats which their countries have suffered and are suffering, statesmen, commentators and others in the enemy countries are discussing the measures to be adopted by their Governments after winning the war. It is reported, for instance, that one association of American commentators adopted a resolution the other day that Japan's six big cities including Tokyo should be held in security occupation during the period of armistice following the termination of the hostilities. This fanciful attitude of American commentators reminds us of a losing speculator who, notwithstanding the fact that he is obliged to deposit one additional margin after another, is still giving free rein to his vain imagination that he could build himself a magnificent house, that he could buy masterpieces of painting or that he could go on an expensive excursion in the event of his realizing big profits.

Such irresponsible remarks are not confined to commentators who hold a position not very responsible. We note that no less a person than Anthony Eden, the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who is on the forefront of international politics, made no less absurd utterances in the British House of Commons on December 2 last year. In the course of a fairly long speech he made on the post-war policy, the British Foreign Secretary laid stress on the need for perfect collaboration among Britain, America, the Soviet Union and China (meaning Chungking, of course) for the successful prosecution of the war, and then declared that for the maintenance of the world order in the future, Britain, America and the Soviet Union only must secure a real monopoly of armed force and must use it in the name of the "United Nations."

Anthony Eden let the cat out of the bag when he, in the above speech, insinuated that although China is to share responsibility for the conduct of the war, she is to play no part in the exercise of international police power after the war. Anyhow, we may safely conclude that there exists a secret agreement between Britain and America as to their exercise of the right of supervising the whole world during a certain period of armistice after the war, for we find the following passage in a radio speech which Cordell Hull, the American Secretary of State, made on July 23, 1942: "It is equally clear that in the process of re-establishing international order, the United Nations must exercise surveillance over aggressor nations until such time as the latter demonstrate their willingness and ability to live at peace with other nations." Nor is this all. In the course of his address on Memorial Day last year, Sumner Welles, after mentioning various items as the aims of the current war, enumerated the following: "(1) Punishment of individuals, groups and peoples responsible for the war, (2) fixing of a considerably long period of time after the war during which to disarm the aggressor nations, (3) the United States and its allies to maintain and employ international police power until the establishment of a permanent system for the preservaiton of peace, (4) the United States to take the leadership in the establishment of the post-war order." Item 8 of the Atlantic Charter also makes mention of the safeguarding of world peace and the limitation of armaments, and we may well assume that, as concrete methods of carrying out these objects, it is already agreed upon between America and Britain as to the punishment of the Axis peoples as responsible for the war, the security occupation of some specified areas, the monopoly of armed force by America and Britain only and their exercise of international police power.

It is usual that plans evolved to meet supposed contingencies do not work well in practice. As to the Atlantic Charter, it has already been betrayed by British policy toward India or it has been reduced to a scrap of paper by America's invasion of North Africa. Any speech made or any resolution adopted on the impossible assumption that their side comes off victorious will be absolutely meaningless. It will neither check or hasten the progress of history. It is, in fact, nothing but a poor attempt on the part of those who are exhausted and harassed to comfort themselves by raising the hopes which they know will soon be shattered. Their imaginative power ought to be employed rather to solve the question of how to prevent the recurrence of a world war. The recurrence of such a war cannot possibly be prevented by the limitation of armaments. Indeed, nothing short of the elimination of the causes of war can be expected to avert its recurrence. If the cause is eliminated, there can be no effect. Earnest attention ought to be directed to the question of ascertaining the causes responsible for the occurrence of two world wars in the present age during a half century. If a deep study is made of this problem, the results of the study will stand them in good stead in case of victory or defeat alike.

I am not in a position to discuss here in detail the causes for the war, but I may be permitted to point out only a few facts by way of refuting the preposterous ideas of those who go the length of urging the security occupation of big cities in Japan or the punishment of individuals, groups and peoples of the Axis Powers as responsible for the war. First, I may point out that the fundamental cause of world unrest is the idea of discrimination and contempt entertained by some nations against other nations. It is well for the enemy nations to direct particularly serious attention to this fact. It is impossible to expect the States, races or individuals discriminated against or held in contempt to remain contented with their lot forever. Their discontent, combined with other causes, is bound to find violent expression sooner or later. It is a pity that haughty people are too often blind to this most obvious truth. Another fact to which I wish to invite attention is that permanent peace cannot be secured by forming a league of nations along democratic lines with each member country as one unit and regarded as a sovereign State, regardless of the geographical positions and the cultural and consanguineous affinity of the States of the world. If, on the contrary, the countries which have geographical, cultural and consanguineous affinities form one bloc under the aegis of their own choosing and if it is so arranged that each of the blocs similarly formed should not wantonly interfere in the affairs of the other bloc, it may confidently be expected that another world conflagration may be warded off. The borders dividing these blocs will serve as fire-proof walls.

They will surely be surprised to learn that this idea of wide-area blocs originated, not in the Axis Powers, but in the philosophy of statesmen in the country to which President Roosevelt and Cordell Hull belong. In December, 1823, James Monroe proclaimed that the American Continent should not thenceforth be objects for the colonizing activities of European Powers and that his country could not but regard as menacing her peace and security any attempt on their part to extend their systems to any part of the Hemisphere. A bloc which rejects intervention by another bloc must itself refrain from intervention of any kind. By the application of the same idea to East Asia, the Co-Prosperity Sphere of East Asia will be formed, while its application to Europe will bring about a new order in Europe. Unless they give up their childish idea of securing international police power for their countries only, the present authorities of America and Britain will forfeit their positions as historic statesmen. In view of the very grave crisis confronting the world at present, the statesmen of the world ought to possess a sufficient spiritual breadth of view.

NANKING STRENGTHENS MONETARY STRUCTURE

Value of Chungking Currency Reaches Nadir

The National Government of China issued the proclamation depriving, on and after June 1, 1942, the old legal tender of its legal value and recognizing only the notes of the Central Reserve Bank as legal tender. The circulation of the old legal tender as legal currency has been prohibited in the three provinces of Kiangsu, Chekiang, Anhwei, and in the cities of Nanking and Shanghai. The old legal tender was to be exchanged generally for Reserve Bank notes at a ratio of two of the former for one of the latter. Following the determination of the above policy, it was decided to dispose of the four Chungking banks seized by the Japanese with their advance into the foreign settlement at the end of 1941 and to close the Peasants' Bank of China and the Central Bank of China on account of their obvious hostility to the Nanking Government and to allow the Bank of China and the Bank of Communications to resume business after reorganization. Of course, the Bank of China and the Bank of Communications have been deprived of the right to issue notes. The currency and banking system of China has thus been readjusted newly by the unification of bank notes.

Founded in 1941

The Central Reserve Bank was founded on January 6, 1941, when it was officially decided to allow the circulation of the old legal tender at par for the time being.

The outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and the American and British defeats have, however, isolated Chungking, which in consequence has become more and more destitute of commodities, while the old legal tender has had a growing tendency to become requisition notes, resulting in the severe depreciation of the old legal tender. In order not to have Reserve Bank notes ill-affected by the heavy fall in the currency, the Nanking Government resolutely cut off the par depreciation of the old legal tender and Reserve Bank notes on March 30, 1942, and on the following day decided on an exchange rate of 100 yuan of the old legal tender to 77 yuan of Reserve Bank notes. For about 50 days since then, this rate was unchanged by the Reserve Bank, during which the old legal tender declined so markedly as to compel the exchange rate to be reduced at first to 74 yuan on May 20 and then to 50 yuan on May 28 in order to meed the decline in value.

The downward tendency was so keen that if it was left to take its natural course, it was thought that it would go down to 40 yuan or to 30 yuan. For this reason some people advocated a rate of three to one, when the present rate of two to one was about to be determined officially. The Nanking Government, however, while considering the position of the masses possessing the old legal tender, gave thought to the future of the note issuing bank and determined on an exchange rate of two of the old legal tender for one of Reserve Bank notes on the basis of the exchange rate of 50 yuan on May 20.

General Adjustment Made

In this way, a general readjustment of the old legal tender has been started, marking a new stage in the Chinese monetary system. As may be noted from every official notification and discussions, the measure taken makes it its principal object to stabilize national life.

The question is the future development of the problem. First of all, the vicious inflation of the old legal tender will inevitably grow in severity hereafter. Observing the financial condition of the Chungking regime since the outbreak of the China Affair, the total amount of expenditure for the three and half years ending at the close of 1940 was 12,200,000,000 yuan as against the total revenue of 2,240,000,000 yuan. For 1941 the estimated expenditure was 6,000,000,000 yuan, double the figure for 1940, but the actual expenditure is said to have run up to 15,000,000,000 yuan, owing to the sharp appreciation of commodities. The total issues of the old legal currency were announced in July, 1941 to be 10,000,000,000 yuan, but presumably reached 25,000,000,000 yuan of late, being about 15 times as much as the pre-war figure. The Chungking regime, which has been cut off from American and British support, has no alternative to replenish financially the power of resistance against Japan but to make more and more its own legal currency an instrument for military requisition, thus hastening its destruction.

The old legal tender is evidently collapsing economically, but political and social support given to it is saving it from falling quickly into an uncontrollable condition of confusion in its course of a complete collapse. These are factors which give an important course to a policy to be taken for ousting the old legal tender and for enlarging and strengthening a policy for economic stabilization through the Reserve Bank notes. The policy of strengthening the notes to be taken hereafter will, therefore naturally expedite further the recovery of economy in Central China.

(From the Toyo Keizai)